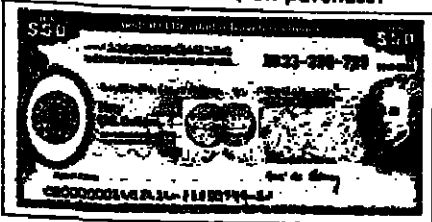


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THE BANK OF KUWAIT & THE MIDDLE EAST

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1989/ZUL HAJ 23, 1409 AH

20 PAGES 150 FILLS

ARAB TIMES

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NEWSWATCH

Saddam's visitor

BAGHDAD, July 25. (Reuters): Former head of Iraqi intelligence Fadi Al Barak was sworn in today as an adviser to President Saddam Hussein. Baghdad Radio said. It gave no further details.

Oldest woman

MIAMI, July 25. (AP): Birdie May Vogt, credited by the Guinness Book of World Records to be the world's oldest living person, died of heart failure 11 days short of her 113th birthday. "She was blind and she was deaf. She just kind of faded away," Alice Freeman, a receptionist at East Ridge retirement village, said today.

General strike

MOSCOW, July 25. (AP): A general strike gripped the capital of the Abkhazian enclave of Soviet Georgia, and the death toll from the republic's ethnic feud continued to rise. Tass reported today. All public transit and half the commercial enterprises were shut down in the Black Sea resort town of Sukhumi, capital of Abkhazia, south of Moscow, the official news agency reported.

French arms

GENEVA, July 25. (KUNA): French frigates and missiles, worth 18,000 million French francs, are to be supplied to Saudi Arabia, according to the 'International Defence Review'. In its latest issue, the monthly magazine published from Geneva said Saudi Arabia had signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with France in early June covering the arms purchase.

Truce extended

ADDIS ABABA, July 25. (Reuters): Sudan's new leader, General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, today extended a unilateral ceasefire to the six-year-old civil war by another month. Bashir announced the extension during a speech at the Organisation of African Unity summit in Addis Ababa. He first declared a one-month ceasefire on July 4.

Khomeini's shrine

NICOSIA, July 25. (Reuters): Iran's memorial to Ayatollah Khomeini will eventually cover an area of 1.150 hectares (2,800 acres). Tehran Radio reported today. This is 20 times bigger than previous estimates by officials for the Islamic Cultural and Academic Centre to be built around the tomb of Iran's late supreme leader south of Tehran.

\$10m bail

NEW YORK, July 25. (Reuters): A federal judge today set bail at \$10 million for the release of Saudi Arabian financier Adnan Khashoggi, who is charged with aiding former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos in a massive real estate fraud. The judge also ruled that Khashoggi, who was extradited from Switzerland last Wednesday, must remain in New York and wear an "electronic bracelet" attached to his wrist or ankle to monitor his movements.

Forest fire

ATHENS, July 25. (Reuters): A forest fire raged out of control near Athens today, threatening a Greek Orthodox monastery and forcing the evacuation of 30 handicapped children from it. The fire swept through areas near the Klonon Monastery on Parnitha Mountain north of Athens. It has burnt more than 50 hectares (125 acres) of pine forest since Sunday.

Missiles fired

RASHAYA, July 25. (Reuters): Syrian forces fired five surface-to-air missiles at two Israeli fighter jets flying low over this eastern Lebanese area today, Lebanese security sources and residents said.

Compensation

NICOSIA, July 25. (Reuters): Iran's state-owned airline demanded today that the United States compensate it for the Airbus shot down by a US warship last year.

Washington last week offered to pay up to \$250,000 in compensation to relatives of each of the 290 people on Iran Air flight 655 who were killed when the Airbus A300 was hit by two missiles fired by the US cruiser Vincennes.

Crime spree

NICOSIA, July 25. (Reuters): An Iranian University dropout and his mother netted millions of dollars worth of valuables in a four-month crime spree in Tehran's affluent northern suburbs.

Cory mulls rebel talks offer

MANILA, July 25. (UPI): President Corason Aquino said today she is studying an offer by communist rebels to resume talks on ending the 20-year insurgency on the condition she agrees to dismantle US military bases in the Philippines.

Aquino's remarks came two days after chief rebel negotiator Satur Ocampo said the

dismantling of the United States' Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval complex was a precondition for the resumption of peace talks, which collapsed in 1987.

Asked during a news conference if she favoured new peace talks with the guerrillas, Aquino said, "yes. But they (the rebels) have set a number of conditions. We are studying

their proposals." Ocampo, in a statement on Sunday, said the bases "are decisive instruments of US strategic control of the country." He said the 23,000-strong communist New People's Army will unilaterally declare a ceasefire should Aquino decide not to extend the bases pact.

Amir will visit Egypt Aug 28

OAU chair to Mubarak

KUWAIT, July 25. (Agencies): Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today said that HH the Amir will pay an official visit to Egypt on August 28, expressing hope it would yield positive outcome for the interest of the two countries' peoples.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters that it would be the first visit ever to Egypt by the Amir, affirming Kuwait's happiness over such an event.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah welcomed the election of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as chairman for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), wishing him success in solving Arab and African problems.

OAU leaders are currently holding a summit conference in Addis Ababa. Kuwait, which provides Egypt with aid, supported the drive to have Cairo readmitted to the Arab League in May following a 10-year suspension for signing a peace treaty with Israel.



Indian opposition leader VP Singh (centre) with other Members of Parliament comes out from Parliament after resigning their seats en masse in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Upper House joins walkout

NEW DELHI, July 25. (AP): Opposition members shouted insults and then walked out of the Upper House of India's Parliament today demanding Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's resignation.

The walkout in the Rajya Sabha, came a day after the opposition resigned en masse from the Lower House to highlight corruption allegations against the government and Rajiv's refusal to step down.

The demand for Rajiv's resignation stemmed from an auditor's report that criticized the government for inconsistencies in the 1986 purchase of artillery from the Swedish firm AB Bofors.

The ruling Congress Party called the move by 12 opposition parties "a stunt and gimmick" before the general elections, which Gandhi must call by January.

The 12 parties control 106 seats in the 544-member Lok Sabha. Rajiv's party has a solid majority in the house and the opposition departure is not likely to affect Parliament's functioning.

Opposition leaders said they were giving up their seats hoping the artillery purchase would become a major issue in the elections.

The 90 opposition members in the Rajya Sabha were asked to keep their seats to try to obstruct legislation passed by the Lower House. Formal approval from the Rajya Sabha is needed before a law can be enacted.

Before storming out of the 245-member house, opposition members chanted: "We want resignation" as Rajiv watched impassively.

House chairman Shankar Dayal Sharma said "the house cannot be held ransom."

Last year Kuwait bought Egyptian armoured personnel carriers and an air defence system in a deal worth around \$500 million.

Mubarak, after restoring Egypt to the Arab fold, is setting his sights on helping other African countries settle their disputes.

Buoyed by an Arab League decision to reinstate Egypt last May after 10 years in the wilderness for signing a peace treaty with Israel, Mubarak scored a diplomatic coup yesterday when he was elected chairman of the 49-member Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

He immediately committed himself to helping settle what he called current disputes within Africa, but did not elaborate.

"We are all in the same trench, we face the same challenges, we fight the same battles," he said after he was unanimously elected to succeed Mali's President Moussa Traore as OAU chairman.

Addressing the opening session of an annual summit of OAU leaders, in Addis Ababa, he pledged firm action against South African "aggression" and the economic challenges facing the world's poorest continent.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said he was confident that UN-sponsored elections for an independent Namibia would go ahead early in November after 74 years of disputed rule by Pretoria.

He criticised South African authorities in Namibia for failing to maintain law and order.

'Infected' KGB tipped 'spy' Bloch

WASHINGTON, July 25. (Reuters): A Soviet agent used code language to warn US diplomat Felix Bloch he was being investigated for spying, a US television network reported.

ABC news quoted intelligence sources yesterday as saying that the agent contacted Bloch in the spring, before the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) questioned the foreign service veteran, to tell him his cover had been blown.

"A bad virus is going around and we believe you are now infected," ABC said the agent told Bloch, the most senior US diplomat to be suspected of spying.

It said Bloch's telephone had been tapped by the US government.

See also Page 5

Unita downs plane; 42 die

LISBON, July 25. (UPI): Angolan Unita guerrillas shot down a Soviet-built transport plane, killing 42 people, in a move that threatens to wreck a month-old ceasefire in the country's 14-year civil war, the official Angolan news agency Angop reported today from Luanda.

Angop and the Portuguese news agency Lusa both quoted military sources saying the US-backed Unita insurgents hit the Antonov 26 aircraft with a ground-to-air missile in eastern Mexico province on Sunday, knocking out an engine and forcing it to crash land.

Only six of the 48 people aboard, including a woman and a 15-year-old child, survived the crash landing near the town of Kazombo, the agencies said. Angop said the dead included the Kazombo municipal commissioner, three soldiers and three members of the plane's crew.

"This is more than a (simple) violation of the ceasefire," an Angolan Army source told Lusa, adding the incident could have grave consequences for the fragile peace process begun last month during an 18-nation African summit in neighbouring Zaire.

Unita spokesman Maj. Marcial Dacosta, contacted in Lisbon by United Press International, said he had "absolutely no comment." Unita officials in London also said they could add nothing to the report.

Lusa said the Antonov 26 was on a flight from the Mexico provincial capital of Luena to Kazombo near the Zaire and Zambian borders when the missile struck one of its engines.

The agency quoted its source saying the plane crashed landed 26 miles (42 km) from the Kazombo airport. There was no immediate indication what kind of missile was used in the attack, but the pro-Western Unita have been receiving US Stinger surface-to-air missiles identical to those used by mujahideen insurgents in Afghanistan since 1986.

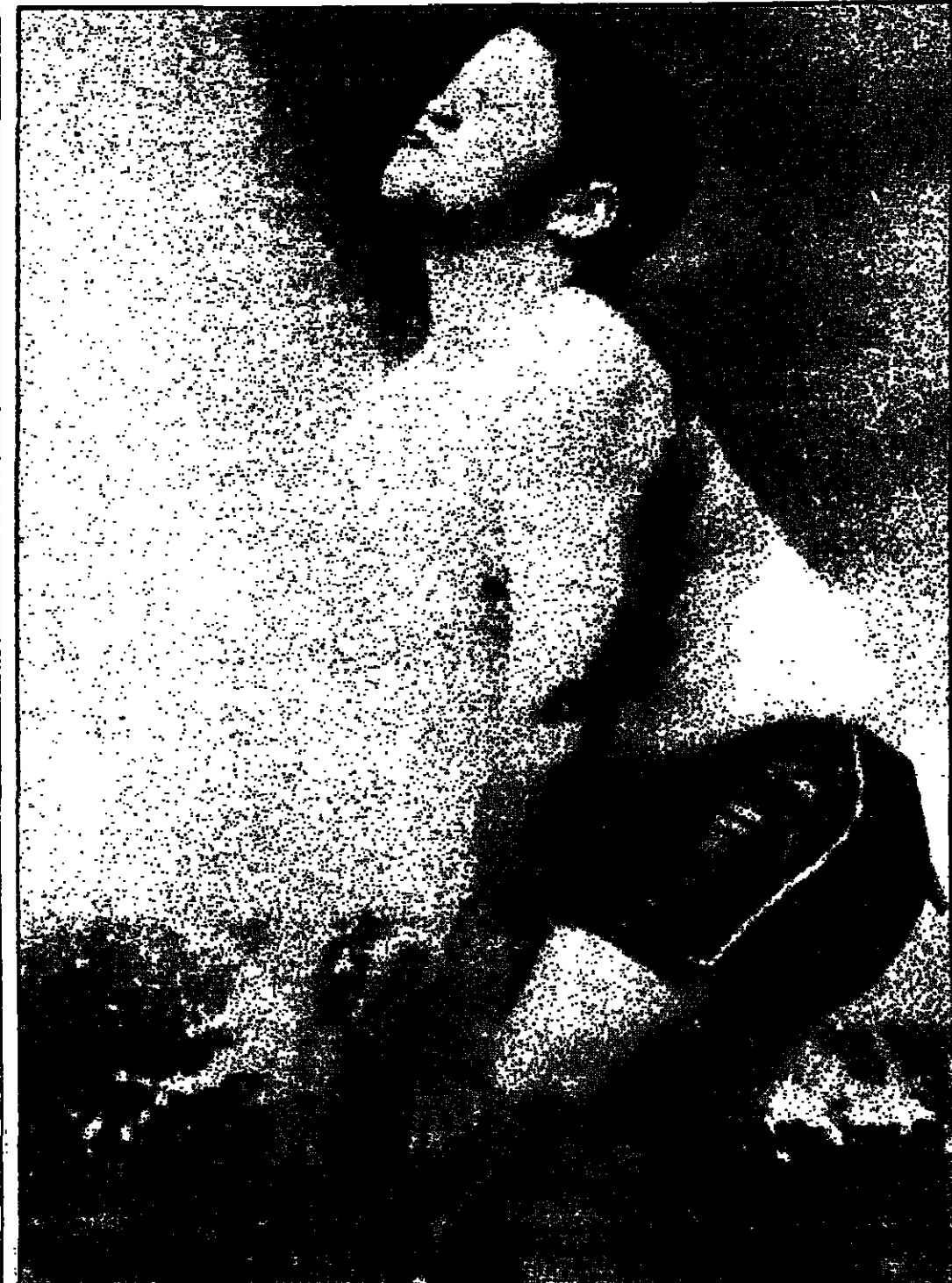
The unidentified Luanda military source was quoted as saying Unita had "substantially increased war actions" across the southwest African country since late last week.

During an 18-nation African summit in neighbouring Zaire last month, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met for the first time, shook hands and declared an indefinite ceasefire effective June 24 to allow negotiations for a final settlement of the brutal 14-year civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

I met Shamir, says PLO supporter

RAMALLAH, West Bank, July 25. (Reuters): A West Bank Palestinian leader said today he did meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to discuss Israel's plan for Arab elections in the occupied territories.

Ramallah lawyer Jamil Tarifi, declaring himself a "supporter" of the PLO summoned reporters



Cooling it off!

George Bragdon, of Boston, finds a cool seat atop a Boston common fountain as temperatures in the city soared into the 90s. More hot and humid weather is forecast for the New England area over the next few days. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lull in Beirut Snipers active

BEIRUT, July 25. (AP): Syrian and Christian forces skirmished with machine-guns across Beirut's dividing Green Line today during a lull in artillery battles as civilians reinforced their bomb shelters amid fears of new bombardments.

Police said a woman was wounded by sniper fire in the Ein Rummaneh district of Christian East Beirut.

That raised the casualty toll from 19 weeks of fighting 453 killed and 1,860 wounded.

The crackle of machine-gun fire echoing through the capital's deserted streets kept tension high.

Families who have not fled the ferocious shelling by both sides prepared for a new outbreak of heavy artillery exchanges.

"I want to be ready when the shelling starts again," said Sumi Muslim gift shop owner Bassem Itani as he filled plastic bags with sand in the Sanayeh neighbourhood of Muslim West Beirut.

Beirut remained a ghost town today. An estimated 250,000 of its 1.5 million residents have fled in recent days amid ferocious artillery duels between the Christians and Syrians, who support Lebanon's Muslim factions.

The usually crowded beaches along the Muslim sector's seaside boulevard were empty amid a blizzard of rumours, passed on from one frightened Beirut to another, about when the ferocious artillery battles will resume.

The Muslim-run Voice of the Nation radio sought to dampen the fears, saying the wildfire rumours were "baseless and speculative."

About 40 Lebanese-Canadian students demonstrated in front of the US embassy yesterday over the Syrian blockade of Christian-held areas of Lebanon.

The students, upset over events in their homeland, want Washington to apply pressure on Syria to end the blockade that has left Christian sectors without food, medication and electricity.

UK likely to pursue PLO talks

LONDON, July 25. (Agencies): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has catapulted the most junior member of her cabinet into the prestigious office of Foreign Secretary, making him a prime contender to succeed her.

The appointment yesterday of John Major, 46-year-old son of a circus trapeze artist, was the boldest in Thatcher's biggest government shakeup since she won power in 1979.

"It was unexpected and I was surprised... it's a remarkable appointment to have," Major told reporters today as he arrived at work for his new job.

Major has no previous experience in foreign affairs and he has an uphill task ahead of him in dealing with this very sensitive area of any government in the world.

British officials say that the direction of the foreign policies in the UK will remain unchanged, especially over major issues like the Middle East, Hong Kong and East-West relations.

They believe that the new foreign secretary will continue to develop Britain's relations with the PLO, following Howe's meeting two weeks ago with Bassem Abu Sharif, a senior aid to the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The government is also keen to maintain playing a major role in advancing the peace process in the Middle East, and the new minister will try to be active in that respect, it was predicted.

Thatcher announced this afternoon the expected changes in junior ministerial posts which form the second part of her cabinet reshuffle.

Four new ministers are appointed from the backbenches, including John Redwood, former head of the Downing Street policy unit, who goes to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Six junior ministers leave the government and Transport Minister Peter Bottomley goes to the Northern Ireland office.

(See earlier report Page 4)

Ahmadis suffering persecution despite Benazir's assured religious freedom

ISLAMABAD, July 25. (Reuters): Up to four million Ahmadis in Pakistan are suffering persecution despite the advent of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's democratic government eight months ago, a spokesman for the community said today.

Spokesman Mujeeb-ur-Rahman told a news conference both authorities and orthodox Islamic clerics were responsible for what he called more than 11 years of persecution of his Islamic sect in Pakistan.

Police gave no protection when religious zealots shot dead three Ahmadis and burned 50 houses nine

days ago in a village in the Punjab province district of Gujrat — the second incident of violence against the sect in three months, he said.

In late April, opponents burned houses of Ahmadis and looted their property in the Punjab town of Nankana Sahib. Police looked on and no action has been taken, Rahman said.

No government comment on the charges was immediately available.

In the past, Pakistani authorities have been lenient to the mullahs' campaigns against Ahmadis, who estimated their numbers at between 2.5 and

four million among Pakistan's 104 million people, and at 10 million world-wide.

Benazir, who took office in December as the first woman prime minister of a Muslim nation, has assured religious freedom to the followers of all faiths.

But Punjab, where most Ahmadis live, is ruled by her main rival Nawaz Sharif, who is backed by Islamic parties.

In March, Punjab authorities banned the first centenary celebration of the Ahmadi sect, which has its headquarters in the central Punjab town of

Rabwah.

The annual Ahmadi congress has been banned for the past five years and several Ahmadi preachers have been killed by Muslim attackers.

A 1974 Pakistani constitutional amendment declared Ahmadis outside the pale of Islam. But they say their real persecution began after General Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq seized power in a 1977 military coup and started a campaign to Islamise Pakistani society.

"This persecution has continued unabated even after the induction of the democratic government,"

Opposition bids to abolish sales tax

TOKYO, July 25, (Agencies): Japan's main opposition parties decided today to submit a bill to abolish an unpopular sales tax which was the main cause of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's stunning defeat in elections last weekend.

The three per cent tax slapped on all consumer goods and services in April angered voters and the LDP lost its majority in the upper house of parliament for the first time since the party was founded 34 years ago, giving the opposition a chance to block LDP-sponsored bills from the lower house and to initiate their own bills.

A spokesman for the Japan Socialist Party, which scored the biggest gains in Sunday's election, said the bill to abolish the tax would be submitted to the upper house in an extraordinary session to be convened in late August.

"We are submitting this because all of our parties promised this during the election," said the spokesman.

"The lower house will probably vote against it, so the bill will be sent to a joint committee to both houses where a compromise will be worked out," he added.

The ruling party has continued to defend the sales tax despite the disastrous effect on its political prospects, saying it was essential to ensure stable government revenues into the 21st century.

The Centrist Democratic Socialist Party, the Buddhist-backed Komeito, the tiny Social Democratic Federation and the Rengo Labour Federation will join the Socialists in submitting the bill, the spokesman said.

The tax looks likely to be the main issue in general elections for the more powerful lower house which the LDP may be forced to hold as early as September, political analysts say.

The party leadership today began the search for a replacement to Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, who announced yesterday that he would soon quit to take responsibility for the election defeat.

Uno, who was hit with all the opposition's attacks, almost as soon as he took office last month, is now viewed as a political liability by the ruling party.

In the wake of Uno's resignation to accept blame for a stunning parliamentary election defeat, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party today decided to elect a successor by an extraordinary party vote expected at the end of August.

"I must be responsible for my duty until the end of August," Uno told party officials, the Kyodo news service reported.

Ruling party executives agreed today to set up an election management committee to accept nominations, headed by nine-term lower house member Seisuke Okuno.

So far, no clear-cut candidates have emerged to succeed Uno.

Early media speculation has centred around three possible candidates, including former LDP executive council chairman Masayoshi Ito, who previously turned down the job following the resignation of Uno's predecessor, Noboru Takeshita. The other two were former State Minister Toshio Komoto and former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru.

LDP officials said they hoped to elect a successor by August 21, when a new session of parliament is due to convene.

Many LDP members had criticised the behind-the-scenes selection of Uno as Takeshita's successor on June 2 without the benefit of a party election.

Former Party General-Secretary Shintaro Abe strongly hinted at a general election within months, which could see the opposition Socialist Party wrest power from the conservatives for the first time since 1948 if current election trends continue.

When asked if the ruling party planned to dissolve parliament and call a general election soon, Abe said, "it won't take long."

The Liberal Democrats still control the government by virtue of the overwhelmingly majority in the powerful lower house of parliament and are not mandated to call a general election until July 1990.

Cambodian talks end in disarray

LA CELLE-SAINT-CLOUD, France, July 25, (AP): Talks between warring Cambodian factions ended today in disarray, with no agreement even on who would take part in an international peace conference on Cambodia scheduled next week.

Yesterday talks ended in discord with Sihanouk and Sen saying they disagreed sharply on participation in talks by the notorious Khmer Rouge.

Sihanouk insisted that Cambodia be represented at the conference opening Sunday by all four factions: his own,

another non-communist group, the communist Khmer Rouge and Hun Sen's Vietnamese-backed Cambodian government.

Hun Sen said there should be just two Cambodian representatives — Sihanouk and himself.

The thorny issue of the Khmer Rouge involves both the group's role in the talks and later in the formation of a proposed transitional government following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

Today's meeting was intended to work out common

ground among the Cambodian groups to prepare for the international conference, scheduled to begin July 30 in Paris.

Hun Sen said the discussions were at an impasse and blamed the presence of the Khmer Rouge, who were represented today by Khieu Samphan.

Other issues on today's agenda included a cease-fire and formation of an international force to monitor the Vietnamese withdrawal.

Sihanouk has the backing of many Western nations,

including the United States, but there has been increasing international support for reaching a settlement that does not include the Khmer Rouge.

The international conference is expected to last about a month, with most of the sessions handled by working groups.

Western analysts and Thai military officers said the fighting along the Thai-Cambodian border, where many refugee camps are located, intensified in recent days.



Soldiers at ease

With flowers at their feet, martial law troops listen to a choir sing "Without the Communist Party There Would Be No New China" in a Beijing Park today. The programme reinforced the current political campaign against Western values and for a return to "plain living" while stressing the "love" between the Army and the people. (Reuters wire-photo)

Seoul opposition demands apology

Sit-in protest

SEOUL, July 25, (Agencies): The main Opposition Party for Peace and Democracy urged President Roh Tae-Woo today to fire his intelligence chief and apologize to the nation for a published report that his leader Kim Dae Jung is suspected of sending a secret letter to North Korea.

Ranking members of the party started an indefinite protest sit-in at its headquarters and threatened to organise a large-scale protest rally unless its demands are met.

The controversy was a result of a report by the domestic Yonhap news agency that authorities wanted to question Kim Dae Jung who they think may have sent a personal letter to North Korean President Kim Il-Sung last year.

Attributing the report to sources at the Agency for National Security Planning, the Korean version of the Central Intelligence Agency, Yonhap said Kim's letter may have been relayed by Suh Kyong-Won, formerly a lawmaker of Kim's party, who is under arrest for making a three-

day trip to the north in August last year.

"This is a smear campaign and an ugly political conspiracy which threaten democratic politics," the party said in a statement. "We will stage a resolute struggle placing the party itself at stake."

The party demanded that President Roh apologise to the nation for the conspiracy by the agency, fire its director and punish those who made the remarks to the press. It also proposed that a special session of the national assembly be convened to tackle the issue.

Suh is under arrest and investigation on charges of violating the national security law and spying for North Korea. He has admitted receiving \$110,000 from North Korea for his political funds.

A South Korean student who defied her government and went to the communist north faces certain arrest and probable exemplary punishment if, as planned, she comes home across the heavily-fortified border on Thursday.

Chinese students stage protest

BEIJING, July 25, (AP): Several hundred students at Beijing University, a key nerve centre of this spring's pro-democracy demonstrations, staged a small weekend protest, students said today.

It was the first known student demonstration in Beijing since troops opened fire on student protesters and supporters on June 3-4, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people and ushering in harsh new restrictions on Chinese.

Students said that on Sunday night, some 300 to 400 graduating seniors sang and beat pots and pans, mourning classmates killed in the crackdown.

One student said some young teachers housed in a nearby dormitory joined in and lit firecrackers before the head of the school's Communist Party Office ordered them all home.

The student said school officials were investigating those who participated in the two-hour event, but no one has yet been punished. He said graduating seniors, how the only ones left on campus, feel oppressed by the ideological study classes they have been forced to attend for the last month.

"No one dares to say what he really thinks. We all have to tell lies," he said.

The students also were protesting the fact that some work units, especially government offices, have rejected graduates assigned to work for them, citing doubts over their political purity.

The student said his classmates on Sunday night sarcastically sang songs like "without the Communist Party, there would be no new China," and repeatedly shouted "long live the Communist Party." He said they also sang the "internationale" and pop songs.

Students said the demonstrators first gathered outside their dormitories to sing, and then marched to the campus poster board area, where students put up thousands of political posters during the spring democracy movement. The singing and noise-making continued there, they said.

In their political education classes, the students, like all Chinese, must study top leaders' essays and speeches on the democracy movement, which the government calls a "counter-revolutionary rebellion."

After repeated reading and discussion of the documents, the students are required to write essays about what they learned from the leaders, how their mistaken thinking was corrected and what they did during the protests.

The seniors are allowed to graduate only after they have submitted an acceptable essay. Students returning in the fall also will undergo political education.

New Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin toured flood areas and factories in central China recently in his first public appearance outside the capital since he was appointed last month.

Jiang, inspected flood prevention projects along the Yangtze river in the central province of Hubei from Friday through Monday, the official Xinhua news agency reported today.

In West Palm Beach, Florida China's ambassador to the United States appealed for patience and understanding of turmoil in his homeland, but warned that China doesn't tolerate pressure or interference. "At present, the important things is not to interfere in China's internal affairs, particularly when it is in difficulty. Do not make things more difficult," ambassador Han Xu told a packed luncheon meeting of the forum club of the Palm Beaches.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Women rescued: Police have rescued from a Taipei brothel nine Chinese women who were sold into prostitution after coming here to undergo job training, authorities said.

The nine were taken into custody following a police raid on the brothel on Huashi street in Taipei's red-light district early Saturday morning, after one of the women escaped and tipped off police.

The mainlanders, aged between 16 and 20, told the police that two Taiwan businessmen had arranged for them and four other girls, who have not yet been found, to come to Taiwan to take a month-long computer training class. But instead, they were sold into prostitution after they arrived June 27.

The women will be sent to a detention centre for illegal mainland immigrants in Nan county, northeastern Taiwan, pending deportation, police said. (UPI)

AIDS survey: Health officials announced today the government and World Health Organisation are teaming up in a survey aimed at determining the extent of public awareness about AIDS. Disclosing a ninth resident has died of the disease among 39 known to be infected with the virus in Singapore, the Health Ministry said the canvass will focus on partner relations, knowledge, attitudes and beliefs concerning the deadly disease.

Trained interviewers will visit each of 2,000 computer-selected households to complete the WHO-adapted questionnaire, the ministry said, adding the University of Singapore is also participating in the project. (UPI)

China floods: Torrential rains and resulting floods have killed more than 200 people since the weekend, stranded tens of thousands of people and washed away roads, dikes and crops, official newspapers said today.

Since the rains began two months ago, nearly 1,700 people have died. (AP)

Miners die: Ten miners died and three were

injured in an accident at a gold mine near Johannesburg, a spokesman for the mine announced Tuesday. Company spokesman Attie Roets said the accident occurred 25 miles (40 km) south-west of Johannesburg at Kloof gold mine at the bottom of No. 1 shaft where the workers were "caught by an inrush of water while walking up a steeply inclined travelling way."

One of those hurt sustained head injuries but was in a stable condition in a mine hospital and the other injuries were minor, Roets said. An accident at Kloof, owned by Gold Fields of the South Africa, an associate company of Consolidated Gold Fields, killed six miners on May 11 this year. (UPI)

Tanker aground: A Cyprus-registered tanker ran aground in strong winds off a Sydney beach today and a tug sent to rescue it was also blown ashore, the Maritime Services Board said.

Spokesman Mike Donnelly said salvage workers hoped the 3,000-ton bulk liquid tanker Kouris would re-float at high tide. The tug beached itself off Botany Bay.

The tanker ran aground after damaging its rudder and was pushed ashore by heavy winds. Donnelly said the tanker was not carrying oil. (AP)

Traffic accidents: Two accidents within 24 hours on an international highway connecting Guinea and Senegal left at least 27 people dead, according to preliminary estimates by authorities in Conakry yesterday.

Sunday night, a truck bound from Labe, in north-western Guinea, to Dakar, Senegal, carrying about 40 people on their way home from a weekly market plunged over a hillside and turned over after the vehicle's brakes failed, said authorities, who spoke on condition they not be identified.

Three passengers were killed and about a dozen others were seriously injured and were taken to the hospital in Labe, 280 miles (450 kilometres) northeast of the coastal capital of Conakry.

Rangoon denies Suu Kyi's husband under arrest

RANGOON, Burma, July 25, (AP): Burma's foreign minister denied today that the British husband of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi is under house arrest with her.

But under terms of Ms. Suu Kyi's house arrest, members of her family are forbidden to make contact with foreign embassies, political parties or people connected with those parties when they leave the house, government spokesman Kyaw Sam said last Friday.

Ohn Gyaw, Burma's minister of foreign

affairs, told a news briefing today that British Charge d' Affaires David Alexander has been told about Michael Aris' situation.

He said Aris had left the house early each morning to visit a monastery.

Kyaw Sam said Ms. Suu Kyi's family members are permitted to leave the residence "under surveillance."

"Dr Aris arrived here July 22 to join his family with a two-month visa. He joined his wife, Aung San Suu Kyi, and son, Alexander, at her house straight from the airport," Ohn

Gyaw said.

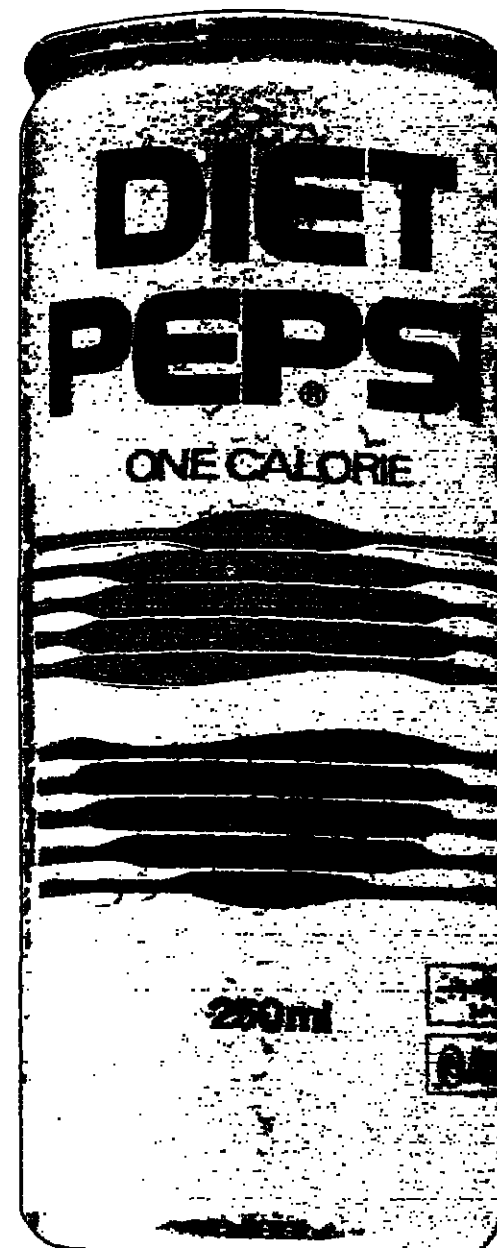
In London, the British Foreign Office said earlier today that British officials have been prevented from entering the house to see Aris. Asked whether Britain believed Aris to be under house arrest, the spokesman said: "We do believe that to be so."

Last Friday, a Foreign Office spokesman in London also said Britain's charge d'affaires was prevented from seeing Aris, an Oxford University professor and expert on Tibet, when he arrived at Rangoon Airport.

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Australian ex-policeman charged with rape

SYDNEY, July 25, (Reuters): A former senior Australian policeman accused of a series of brutal rapes wept today when told his wife was in court listening to details of the 25 charges.

Retired detective superintendent Harry Blackburn, 59, pleaded not guilty when he appeared in a Sydney court charged with rapes, sexual assaults, armed robberies and kidnappings spread over two decades.

Public prosecutor John Brydon told the court that between 1969 and 1988 Blackburn

had hunted down couples in cars parked in car parks and "lovers lanes" in the southern suburbs of Sydney.

They were forced from their vehicles, sometimes at knifepoint and once with an axe, before Blackburn tied up the males and locked them in the boot of the car.

Blackburn, a former head of the New South Wales police scientific squad, then allegedly drove the cars a short distance before assaulting the women.

Blackburn, who left the force in 1988 after

gaining a good conduct medal, sat quietly in court with his head bowed as details of the charges were read out.

Magistrate Arthur Riedel granted Blackburn bail of 400,000 dollars (\$300,000) provided he surrendered his passport and reported twice a week to police.

Police used evidence gathered by genetic fingerprinting technology to pinpoint their former colleague in a covert operation called Photo after they found Blackburn had never posed for an official police photograph.

Bingo Day 10
7 33 56 64

30 at a time

Attic crawling with snakes

BRISBANE, Australia, June 25, (AP): A do-it-yourself repairman found more than 30 snakes nesting in his loft when he tried to install insulation and was told today the entire house is probably crawling with the reptiles.

Ross Smith decided he wasn't up to tackling the snakes and called in local park ranger Neil Burnett, who lived a couple of blocks away.

"When you see a six or eight foot (2 or 2.4 metre) snake stuck in the rafters and you are up there by yourself, you are not too keen about pulling them out by yourself," Smith said.

Burnett discovered a carpet snake, a venomous brown snake and about 30 green tree snakes draped along the rafters of the thornlands suburb home in sub-tropical Queensland state.

Smith, who has lived in the house since 1984 and has snakes in his garden, was told he probably will encounter more snakes when he gets around to making more repairs.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Batman creator Bob Kane got his start in New York by acting a little more like the Joker.

"I'd scribble on walls. On the subway. I'd see an advertisement with the Colgate (toothpaste) girl smiling with that beautiful set of ivory teeth, and I'd start blacking the teeth out," Kane said in an interview.

Kane, the son of a newspaper printer, invented Batman at age 18 and drew him for DC comics from 1939 to 1966.

He's been lecturing and making television appearances since the release of the "Batman" movie and will publish his autobiography, "Batman and Me," in October. (AP)

NEW YORK: Steve Martin says his experience in last year's all-star Lincoln Centre Production of Waiting For Godot has soured him on the theatre.

The problem wasn't co-stars Robin Williams, F. Murray Abraham and Bill Irwin, or the direction of Mike Nichols — that was "a gloriously enervating experience," Martin said in an interview.

It was the reviews, which were "negative to the extreme. Out of all proportion," Martin said.

"Before the show opened, during previews, everybody loved us. Cheers, bravos, the whole bit," Martin said. "Then as soon as the reviews came out, the audiences started sitting there without reacting — no laughter — nothing." (AP)

VANCOUVER, British Columbia: Prime Minister Brian Mulroney played first base and outfielder in a team of US stars to be named player of the game and help Canada beat the United States 13-12 in a celebrity softball game.

The US team included Los Angeles Kings hockey star Wayne Gretzky and his wife, actress Janet Jones; actor Gene Hackman; and the star of the Masey television series, Richard Dean Anderson.

Also playing were former hockey star Gordie Howe, musician Dan Hill and actresses Catherine Mary Stewart and JoBeth Williams.

Rick Hansen, the man in motion wheelchair athlete, played for Canada and was the crowd favourite. He drew the only standing ovation when the stars were announced. (AP)

AUSTIN, Texas: Hundreds of outraged Texans are urging the state to reconsider a new licence plate design, which has drawn complaints from people who believe the slogan "Friendship State" is too wimpy.

The new plate, a powder blue-trimmed design adopted last week by the state highway commission, prompted hundreds of Texans to call the state department of highways and public transportation in protest.

Department spokesman Roger Polson said yesterday that most callers believe the tag's slogan should be "The Lone Star State" or it should have no slogan at all. (UPI)



AIDS walk

Part of the estimated 10,000 people participating in San Francisco's third annual AIDS Walk set out at the start of the ten km course in Golden Gate Park to raise money for AIDS care organisations Sunday. Last year's event raised \$1.2 million. (Reuter wirephoto).

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa: Mount Vernon may not be the naked city with 8 million stories, but local police say they now have at least one naked story for the books.

Officers involved in a high-speed chase early Sunday were surprised when the driver leaped out of his vehicle and ran away wearing no clothes.

The streaking suspect — identified as Murry Mente, 22 — eventually turned himself in. Mente claimed the incident was part of a practical joke.

But law officers added the punishment, charging the suspect with indecent exposure, interference with police, speeding and failure to yield. (UPI)

LONG BEACH, California: Actors Red Buttons, Danny Glover and other celebrities helped the Los Angeles County sheriff's department raise nearly \$450,000 during a telephone fund an anti-drug programme.

Comedian Buddy Hackett and actors Rene Auberjonois and Ron Mook also participated in the substance abuse-narcotics education telethon, which ended early Sunday. (AP)

NEW YORK: After getting a taste of the Hollywood star treatment, 26-year-old filmmaker Steve Soderbergh is retreating from the bright lights, his bag stuffed with big movie projects.

Soderbergh, whose Sex, Lies and Videotape won the Golden Palm at the Cannes film festival this year, has new assignments from Robert Redford, Sydney Pollack and Barry Levinson.

But instead of setting up shop in Hollywood, he left southern California recently to return to Charlottesville, Virginia, where he lived from age 10 to 13. (AP)

MOBILE, Alabama: Kristen Haxel has eased her parents' concerns about paying for her college education by winning young woman of the year honours.

The 18-year-old got a \$30,000 scholarship with the award in a contest that featured 50 high school seniors.

"I just wanted the experience of meeting all the girls," she said afterward. "It's more than I ever could wish for." (AP)

Singles snooping on potential mates

NEW YORK, July 25, (Reuter): Curious single people are increasingly using private detectives to check out prospective mates, according to investigators in New York City.

Vincent Parco, owner of Vincent Parco Confidential Investigations, said his agency conducted between 100 and 150 investigations for singles in the past year, as opposed to a handful of cases in previous years.

"People tail each other for many reasons," Parco said, but they all want the same thing — information.

"Information is power," Parco said. "And every little bit of information can lead to something."

One young woman described what happened when she used Parco's agency to check out a businessman she had been

dating for several months.

"I had probably been seeing the guy for eight months, but it all seemed a little fish to me. I never went to his house."

It turned out that the man was married and lived with his wife. "I just backed out of the relationship," the woman said.

Parco said his single clients usually have longer-term or even live-in romantic partners checked out because they suspect cheating and want to verify the person's background. The average investigation costs between \$500 and \$1,000 he said.

Parco said several clients have used his services to gather information on someone they are trying to meet, to give them an idea of how to approach the person.

"I would say most of them are shy," Parco said. "It's semi-serious, semi-funny."

Larry Webb, president of the World Association of Detectives, which represents investigators in 47 countries, said the increase in singles snooping on singles is a worldwide phenomenon, largely because of AIDS and other diseases.

"People are being very careful who they go out with. More people are checking because often they don't know who they're going out with," said Webb. "It's a worldwide trend, and it's growing," he added.

Joanne Kunda, a junior partner in Parco's agency, said that with the advent of AIDS, which can be transmitted through sexual contact, more people are interested in setting down.

One of her clients has lost out with three different women, all of whom were checked out by Kunda.

"He really wants to get married,"

Kunda said of the despairing man.

One of the women Kunda investigated was a drug dealer, another turned out to be married with children, and the third was exceedingly promiscuous, Kunda said.

Kunda said clients typically want to know where the person is going, who they are with, what they are wearing, who they meet when they go out, what time they go home, and with whom they go home.

Irwin Blye, another detective, believes the change in lifestyles is the main reason for the increase in requests for background checks.

"Years ago, you brought your intended home to meet the family," he said. "Now you don't get to meet everyone's family or friends. As a result, there's more mystery about what the individual is really like."

No big names in scandal

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP): Federal investigators said yesterday they have uncovered no evidence that high-ranking government officials used a homosexual prostitution ring or that other patrons have been blackmailed by the escort service.

"It was a credit card case in the beginning, and it still is," said one law enforcement source who spoke only on condition of anonymity.

The secret service, which conducted raids on a posh northwest Washington home in February and May as part of a probe into the string of escort services, is involved in the case because of its traditional jurisdiction over credit card fraud, said spokesman Robert Snow.

The secret service also is conducting a separate, internal investigation of two uniformed officers accused of allowing lobbyist Craig Spence to take several prostitutes on late-night White House tours. One officer has admitted accepting an expensive watch from Spence and giving him a piece of Truman china.

Paul Balach, a personnel officer in labour secretary Elizabeth Dole's office, resigned after the Washington Times reported that credit card receipts bearing his name had been found by investigators.



Ladies in white

Members of the Sydney Australia's "White Lady Funerals Ltd." pose for the camera Monday after the launch of their unique funeral service. The White Ladies have decided to add a touch of colour in place of the traditional sombre "all black" funeral service. They wear all white, drive a white hearse and offer coffins in pastel hues. (Reuter wirephoto).

6,000 go to jail

DUBLIN, California, July 25, (AP): It's not exactly Disneyland, but a new jail and its robot food carts have become so popular with families that a baffled sheriff decided to schedule more tours this week.

"We've had people with cameras and video cameras. It's amazing to me," said sheriff's Sgt. Harvey Lewis, who organized the tours of the state-of-the-art facility.

The \$174-million Alameda County Jail, about 25 miles (40 kilometres) east of San Francisco, will be the sixth-largest county jail in the nation when it opens in September. Sheriff Charles Plummer and his deputies were amazed when more than 6,000 people showed up for five tours offered during two weeks last month.

About 2,500 showed up for the first Saturday tour — more than the number who tour the former federal prison on Alcatraz on an average day.

The new jail's biggest draw is its high-tech robot carts, which will deliver food and linens throughout the compound.

Shipment of illicit steroids seized, 6 arrested

FORT MITCHELL, Kentucky, July 25, (AP): An Army officer and five Canadians face charges in connection with North America's largest confiscation of illicit steroids intended for human consumption, the US Customs Service said yesterday.

Customs agents announced that Clint Medford, 29, of El Paso, Texas, a captain stationed at the Army's Fort Bliss base, was arrested Friday along with Tibor Reiter, 47,

of Weston, Canada. The arrests occurred when agents seized a tractor-trailer truck in Erlanger, Kentucky, that contained 25,790 units of steroids. Authorities estimated the value of the steroids at \$2.1 million.

Charged in Canada were Medford, Reiter, James Connolly, 39, of Brampton, Ontario and Ronald Sutherland, 43, Grangeville, 43, and Albert Beraldo, 36, all of London, Ontario, US Customs officials said.

Authorities said the Canadian charges involve either smuggling or selling controlled drugs without a prescription.

Reiter had been driving the truck and Medford was following behind in a car when the two were arrested early Friday as the shipment of vials and boxes was being delivered to undercover agents, US authorities said.

The Customs Service retained custody of the drugs and truck.

IBM COMPUTER INSTALLATION AT KUWAIT AIRWAYS

Kuwait Airways and Khorafi Business Machines have finalized the installation of an IBM 3090 and two IBM 4381-P21 Mainframes.

The IBM 4381 processors run Kuwait Airways's current RESKU reservation system.

The IBM 3090 will be running IBM's most advanced operating system, MVS/ESA and Kuwait Airways's new Reservation

System under ALCS, the first in the Middle East.

Kuwait Airways has selected IBM due to its world wide role in information technology and airline reservation systems and to continue the long term partnership with IBM and Khorafi Business Machines.



Kuwait Airways executives represented by Mr Ahmad Al Zabin - Director General, Mr Yousef Al Jassim - Deputy Director General for Financial & Administrative Affairs, Mr Saleh Al Askar - Director Computer Department are seen above with the Khorafi Business Machines management, Mr A. M. Al Khorafi - Chairman, Mr Josef De Georgi - General Manager, Mr Houssam Hatoum - Marketing Manager, who congratulated Kuwait Airways for the new installation.



Above, the Director of the Computer Department and some members of the Kuwait Airways DP project management team are seen with Mr Nisar Memon - KBM Sales Manager and the KBM marketing team, in the computer room where the new equipment has been installed.



شركة كورافي للأجهزة الإلكترونية
وكيل شركة إيبم ورلد وايد كورپوريشن
Khorafi Business Machines (W.L.L.)
Agent for IBM World Trade Corporation





Heat of the moment

A plumber, dressed for the soaring temperatures in London joins the comings and goings at 10 Downing Street, the official London residence of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. (Reuter wirephoto)

Heat is on

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): In an advertisement in a London subway station Bob Hope is standing beneath an umbrella wearing a soaking raincoat. The ad says, "Phone home about the joys of an English summer."

Unfortunately, rain is one of the "joys" the British and millions of visitors have missed this summer. Ask about anybody, it's not supposed to be this hot and humid in Britain.

The London weather centre meteorological office said temperatures in London reached 90 degrees (32 C) yesterday, the highest temperatures in the capital since the major drought of 1976.

Temperatures at Heathrow Airport reached 93 degrees (33.8 C) Saturday, the highest nationwide temperature since 1983 and hotter than Bombay and Tunis.

To people living in India or the Middle East temperature that high might seem normal, but in Britain it means riding to work on a crowded train or a bus with a bunch of sweaty people in wool pin-striped suits.

"Jesus it's hot," is close to becoming a national greeting.

But a spokesman for the weather centre said temperatures were not expected to hit the highest level ever, 99 degrees (37 C), recorded in southern England in 1911.

Thank goodness for small favours.

At least one good thing has come from the hot weather, a steamy night was believed to be responsible for saving a baby abandoned in an alley in north London during the weekend. The baby named Elizabeth by nurses was taken to hospital in west London where she was recovering from a mild case of exposure.

On the minus side, however, water authorities have imposed bans on the use of hoses in some areas and urged the public not to wash cars or water gardens.

Dafydd Evans of the Welsh water authority, which imposed its ban five weeks ago, said the authority was pumping "15 million gallons per day down the River Wye from Mid-Wales to service the Cardiff area," because the south Wales city's usual reservoirs were running low.

Motorists ran into problems over the weekend when newly laid stretches of freeway on the London Orbital road, the M25, failed to set in the heat, causing long detours.

Probe urges prosecution

War criminals inquiry

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Britain has enough evidence to prosecute three suspected Nazi war criminals, a government inquiry said yesterday, but a decision was postponed until Parliament can debate the issue this fall.

The War Crimes Inquiry recommended British courts be given the power to hear cases of murder and manslaughter committed as war crimes in Germany or German-occupied territory during World War II.

After examining 301 allegations against people living in Britain, it said there was sufficient evidence to prosecute four people, although one has since died and another is in poor health. Another 78 cases warrant further investigation, and attempts should be made to trace 46 others alleged to have fled to Britain after the war, it said.

In Scotland, a television programme about alleged Nazi war criminals living in Britain was cut off last night after lawyers acting for one of the men named in the programme obtained a court injunction.

The programme was stopped after 45 minutes of the hour-long documentary "Crimes of War" had been shown. Directors of Scottish Television (STV) ordered the transmission be stopped because of the court action.

REQUIRED

1) Plant Engineer

Qualification: Graduate in Electrical or Electronic Engineering.

Experience: 5-8 yrs in sophisticated processing industries. Must have knowledge of mechanical maintenance. Should be able to join immediately.

2) Industrial Electrical Technician

Qualification: Diploma in Electrical/Electronic Engineering.

Experience: 3-5 yrs in sophisticated industrial automated systems.

3) Operator

Qualification: Diploma in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering.

Experience: In operating machines in processing industries. Prior experience in Carbon Dioxide Plant production an added qualification.

Must have transferable residence permit.

Please call on 4735609/4739169 for appointment.

Team to study crash mystery

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP): Special investigators are trying to determine how so many people walked away from last week's DC-10 crash in Iowa, hoping to find ways for more people to survive airline crashes.

Members of the group, led by National Transportation Safety Board investigators, are interviewing hospitalised passengers in Sioux city and will send questionnaires to other survivors, Ted Lopatkiewicz of NTSB said.

Officials say 185 passengers and crew members survived when United Airlines Flight 232, en route from Denver to Philadelphia via Chicago, crashed Wednesday while making an emergency landing in Sioux city. The NTSB has not determined the cause of the crash, but reports say an engine explosion apparently knocked out flight steering mechanisms.

Among issues to be studied by investigators is the fact that several infants were travelling at no charge in their parents' arms, a common practice on domestic flights, and whether child-restraint seats should be required. United said at least one infant was among the 111 dead.

The team, Lopatkiewicz said, will try to determine what precautions were most effective in preventing injury and death when the disabled jetliner burst into flames during the emergency landing, flipped over, landed on its back and split apart in a cornfield near the airport.

The survival investigation also will cover crash and fire preparations on the ground, Lopatkiewicz said.

The NTSB recommended in 1983 that standards be adopted for infant seats on airlines. In 1984, the US Federal Aviation Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration drew up standards for seats that can be used on airlines and cars, but they are not required.

The association of flight attendants and some airline safety groups have pushed for child-restraint seats on airlines. The procedure for emergencies is to have children without seats wrapped and padded and braced on the floor.

If child-safety seats were required, infants who sit on laps and fly at no charge would make family travel more expensive.

An unusually large number of children are flying on some domestic routes this summer, in part because several airlines, including United, offered free tickets to children flying with adults on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Investigators have also ordered another aerial search for key parts of United Flight 232's rear engine and planned to visit the General Electric Co. plant where the engine was made.

The team from the National Transportation Safety Board said they expected to wrap-up their work this week at the Sioux Gateway Airport.

Meanwhile, United Capt. Al Haynes, the pilot credited with keeping the jetliner aloft after most control had been lost, was scheduled to be released from the hospital and meet with reporters for the first time today.

The death toll from the crash rose to 111 yesterday. Of the 296 people on board, 185 survived, including 10 of the 11 crew members. More than 30 people remain hospitalised.

The investigation into the accident has been hampered because the rear engine, one of three on the DC-10, flew apart over farms in northwest Iowa.

Yesterday, teams searched a 16-square-mile (41-square-kilometre) section of corn and soybean fields about 60 miles (96 kilometres) away from the crash site in hopes of finding missing pieces of the engine.

Officials also used aircraft from the Nebraska Air National Guard to take infrared photographs of the area and asked farmers working their fields to look for pieces of the engine.

While some debris was recovered, key sections have yet to be found including a 400-pound (180-kilogram) disk from the engine. NTSB investigator Robert Macintosh said last night.

Officials ordered another round of aerial photography.

Thatcher ousts Howe in shake-up of cabinet

Twelve promoted, four sent packing

LONDON, July 25, (Agencies): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has executed the most dramatic cabinet shake-up of her 10-year rule, easing out Sir Geoffrey Howe as foreign secretary and bringing in rising conservative stars to boost the party's flagging popularity.

Her promotions of 12 men and ousters of four are designed to invigorate the party, a spokesman for Thatcher said.

"Everyone's done such a good job there's hardly a need to say anything," he said. "It's getting new blood into the cabinet. Not only are we

getting four new (people) in, more than a third are shifting jobs." Thatcher sent shock waves through British politics by prising Howe from the Foreign Office yesterday and replacing him with relatively unknown John Major, previously number two to Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson.

Fighting a mounting challenge from the resurgent Labour Party, she also fired Transport Secretary Paul Channon and Social Services Secretary John Moore and rang the changes at the key ministries of education, trade, defence and environment.

The new cabinet line-up

LONDON, July 25, (Reuter): Following is the composition, by seniority, of the British cabinet following the reshuffle yesterday.

■ Prime Minister: Margaret Thatcher

■ Lord President of the Council and Deputy Prime Minister: Sir Geoffrey Howe

■ Chancellor of the Exchequer: Nigel Lawson

■ Lord Chancellor: Lord Mackay of Clashfern

■ Home Secretary: Douglas Hurd

■ Foreign Secretary: John Major

■ Welsh Secretary: Peter Walker

■ Employment Secretary: Norman Fowler

■ Defence Secretary: Tom King

■ Trade and Industry Secretary: Nicholas Ridley

■ Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster: Kenneth Baker

■ Health Secretary: Kenneth Clarke

■ Secretary for Education and Science: John MacGregor

■ Scottish Secretary: Malcolm Rifkind

■ Transport Secretary: Cecil Parkinson

■ Energy Secretary: John Wakeham

■ Lord Privy Seal: Lord Belstead

■ Social Security Secretary: Anthony Newton

■ Environment Secretary: Christopher Patten

■ Northern Ireland Secretary: Peter Brooke

■ Minister of Agriculture: John Selwyn Gummer

■ Chief Secretary to the Treasury: Norman Lamont



Major leaves 10 Downing Street in London Monday after receiving word of his promotion. (Reuter wirephoto)



John Major (left) meets with Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of UAE in London. (Reuter wirephoto)

Britain's rising star

LONDON, July 25, (Agencies): John Major, surprise choice for foreign secretary in Margaret Thatcher's cabinet reshuffle, personifies the prime minister's creed of personal enterprise.

His elevation to the Foreign Office pitches the reasonable 46-year-old into the front rank of conservative politicians vying to succeed Thatcher.

Colleagues believe Major's promotion virtually anoints him as her heir-apparent.

There is nothing of the traditional Tory grandee about Major. The son of a circus trapeze artist, he left school at 16 and began working life as a builder's labourer. He experienced unemployment before settling down to a career in banking that led him on to politics.

He became a Member of Parliament in 1979 in the Conservative general election triumph that brought Thatcher to power and has risen relentlessly in her wake.

A shrewd colleague forecast he would be the first of his year to win a cabinet seat, and he was.

Minor government jobs came his way from 1983 until 1986 when he became a junior school security minister.

The appointments of Major and Baker, 54, were seen as marking each as a possible successor to Thatcher as Conservative leader. But British newspapers said today that Major's move made it clear he was her personal favourite.

"We now know without the need for guesswork who her chosen successor will be," The Guardian said in an editorial.

"Thatcher has handed the man she thinks most likely to succeed

Major's breakthrough came in 1987 when Thatcher made him chief secretary to the Treasury and deputy to Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson.

While it is a chancellor's job to exercise economic strategy, the chief secretary has the less glamorous role of holding the government's purse strings.

Major held the post at a time of financial stringency when his main duty was to curb the spending appetite of departmental ministers who outranked him in the cabinet.

Political sources said Thatcher was impressed by Major's ability to hold the line without making enemies.

After his promotion to the cabinet, the Observer newspaper described the young Major as "a blend of ordinariness and high ability. He is a 'nice' man, a man without enemies in a party where honour can sometimes be measured by the number of one's foes. Everyone, without exception, speaks highly of him."

A lanky, bespectacled man who determinedly conceals his emotions, Major does not easily fit conventional labels in the Conservative Party. "The best (label) that can be offered for Mr

Major is practical," the Financial Times business daily commented earlier this month.

In the weeks before the reshuffle, political wisdom was that Thatcher would test her protégé's mettle by putting him in charge of his own department for the first time.

No-one apparently suspected she was going to vault him straight into one of the three main offices of state in a coup rivaling the appointment of David Owen as labour's foreign secretary at the age of 38 in 1977.

There are other parallels with Owen then. As a young politician, Major has a relatively low public profile despite the esteem of fellow professionals in parliament.

This will change rapidly as he steps into the international arena and in particular into the mainstream of Britain's relations with its partners in the European Economic Community (EEC).

Major's father, Tom Major, who was born in 1876, was 66 years old when John was born. Besides his skill on the high wire, the elder Major played vaudeville as a conjuror, singer and comedian, and as a double act with his wife, Kitty.

Major said he did not consider Howe's move to leader of the House of Commons and deputy prime minister a demotion.

"I think to become deputy prime minister cannot be described as a demotion in any terms."

Howe was expected by political commentators to have a much greater say in domestic policy.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Harrison knighted

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Actor Rex Harrison was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II at a Buckingham Palace ceremony today.

Sir Reginald, as he will be formally known, said: "I think it is marvellous. I love all the ceremony."

The 81-year-old actor, best known for his Oscar-winning role as Henry Higgins in the movie "My Fair Lady," was awarded the knighthood in recognition of his service to the arts.

"I think they rather like to leave awarding honours until you get to a certain age," he said.

Second tower

LONDON, July 25, (KUNA): British archaeologists have discovered a second Tower of London immediately outside the western edge of the early mediaeval city, just east of what is now Ludgate Circus, central London, it was reported today.

Known as "Montfichet's Tower" in mediaeval times, the second London castle was built with the Tower of London after the Norman conquest, to keep the city subjugated, it was pointed out.

Historians, who described the find as "sensational," have puzzled over the exact position of London's second tower.

Several arrested

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, July 25, (AP): Police said yesterday they arrested several people in overnight raids in Roman Catholic districts of Londonderry.

Britain's domestic news agency Press Association said as many as 12 people, including several women, were detained in Northern Ireland's second city.

Police said the suspects were being questioned at Belfast's Castlereagh Interrogation Centre about "serious crimes" in Londonderry, but gave no other details.

Two British Army soldiers suffered minor injuries when a bomb exploded on the main Londonderry-to-Letterkenny Road yesterday afternoon, police said. The blast smashed windows in houses nearly half a mile (0.8 kilometres) away.

Painting stolen

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Police said yesterday they are investigating the reported theft from London's Heathrow Airport of a Paul Gauguin painting owned by the Beadstone Gallery of New York.

The London newspaper the Daily Mail in what it tagged an exclusive report, said the painting, valued at more than \$1.2 million (\$1.9 million), was stolen from a cargo hangar.

It said the watercolour measuring nine inches by four inches (22.8 cms by 10.1 cms) is titled "Tahitiennes en Feroe Rouge," Tahitian women in a red pareo, or skirt.

Diplomat arrested

LONDON, July 25, (KUNA): A diplomat has been arrested as he prepared to smuggle 91 kilos of cocaine worth \$45 million into Britain, British police announced here yesterday.

Amin Didi Cetain, a Maldivian islands diplomat, was seized with three suitcases containing the drugs at Faro Airport in Portugal last Friday.

His arrest followed an undercover operation by British Scotland Yard and customs officers.

A British police spokesman said this afternoon: "He was arrested by the Portuguese authorities last Friday in possession of the cocaine."

Bardot upset

ST TROPEZ, France, July 25, (UPI): Animal loving French movie star Brigitte Bardot said yesterday she was "scandalised and upset" by the public reaction to her having a neighbour's donkey castrated to prevent it molesting an elderly mare she keeps in her garden.

Animal activist Bardot became the focus of publicity in French media when she agreed to look after the donkey, Charly, for her neighbour Jean-Pierre Mauviel at the chic Mediterranean resort of St Tropez while he was on vacation.

Bardot became worried when the donkey made amorous advances to her 32-year-old mare in the garden of her villa. She consulted a veterinary surgeon, who advised her to have the donkey castrated.

Finland's opera star

HELSINKI, Finland, July 25, (AP): The future leadership of Finland's new national opera appeared uncertain yesterday after the sudden death of internationally renowned bass singer Martti Talvela.

Talvela, 54, died on Saturday during his daughter's wedding. He was Finland's premier opera star who had headed acclaim on leading international opera stages, including Milan's La Scala, the Vienna National Opera, the Moscow Bolshoi and the New York Metropolitan.

Blasf off delayed

PARIS, July 25, (Reuters): Lightning striking close to the launch site has delayed the next blast-off of Western Europe's Ariane space rocket until Aug 8.

Officials for Arianeespace, the Paris-based company that builds and markets the rocket, said yesterday the launch had been held up for a few days because lightning had struck near a building housing a satellite due to be carried on the Ariane-4 rocket.

They said the European Space Agency's Hipparcos satellite, an experimental mission aimed at giving close-ups of the stellar system, was not damaged.

Witch doctor

JOHANNESBURG, July 25, (Reuters): A South African woman died early today within minutes of drinking a potion from a witch doctor, state radio reported.

The radio said the woman, from Kraaifontein outside Cape Town, visited the medicine man after she felt unwell. She died 15 minutes after drinking the herbal mixture.

Witchdoctors and their herbal cures are highly regarded by millions of South Africans.

Vienna age-old spying centre

VIENNA, Austria, July 25, (AP) — The espionage investigation of US diplomat Felix S. Bloch has again thrown a spotlight on Vienna, home of Graham Greene's "third man," as a hotbed of East-West spying and intrigue.

Orson Welles' depiction of Harry Lime stamped on the minds of millions of moviegoers an image of devious dealings in the Austrian capital, which like Berlin was divided into four sectors — British, French, American and Soviet — after World War II.

Former Nazis and refugees from Eastern Europe struggled to survive in the postwar turmoil, selling knowledge to any side that would pay and helping to weave a net of intrigue.

The Soviets eventually withdrew their forces from Austria in 1955. But they left behind a large embassy, and a host of trade and other offices that Western intelligence agencies have always viewed as potential helpmates of Moscow's civilian and military intelligence agencies, the KGB and the GRU.

Intelligence sources in Washington say that just about every American taken to court on charges of spying for the Soviets in the past five years had come to Vienna to meet KGB officers.

The Soviets are as aware as the Americans that these trips are often part of the evidence used by the FBI.

Speculate
Some Western intelligence sources speculate, therefore, that one apparent purpose of the trip to Vienna is to get a blackmail hold over the American, threatening exposure of a hard-to-explain journey if he wants to wriggle out of his deal with the KGB.

Americans who have made Vienna trips include Ronald Pelton, the National Security Agency officer who tipped Moscow to a system that hid US submarines from Soviet radar, and John Walker, head of a family spy ring in the US Navy.

Court documents in the Walker case included written instructions from the KGB about how to "drop" information, including a detailed description of doing a walking "pass" on a Vienna street.

The document was so graphic the US television network ABC later filmed two men acting out the "pass" in the Austrian capital.

It was also in Vienna that marine Clayton Lonetree confessed to a security breach in the US Embassy in Moscow.

A Soviet defector who worked for the GRU in Vienna in the 1970s described Moscow's elaborate intelligence network in the Austrian capital in a 1985 memoir, "Aquarium," published in England.

Viktor Suvorov (not his real name) said detailed procedures were worked out to avoid immediate identification by Austrian and other security services in Vienna of agents in the embassy.

He estimated about 80 percent of all Soviets in Vienna — where Moscow has an Aeroflot office, trade representations, and a large diplomatic presence at the United Nations — engaged in "other work" outside their official duties.

Part of the elaborate cover-up of Soviet intelligence work, according to Suvorov, was to assign active agents, such as himself, mostly to work outside Austria.

Bloch had not been charged with any crime as of yesterday, it is not known what information, if any, Bloch handed to the Soviets during his seven years in Vienna, where he arrived in 1980 as head of the US Embassy's economics section. He then became deputy chief of mission, a post he held for years before returning to Washington in 1987.

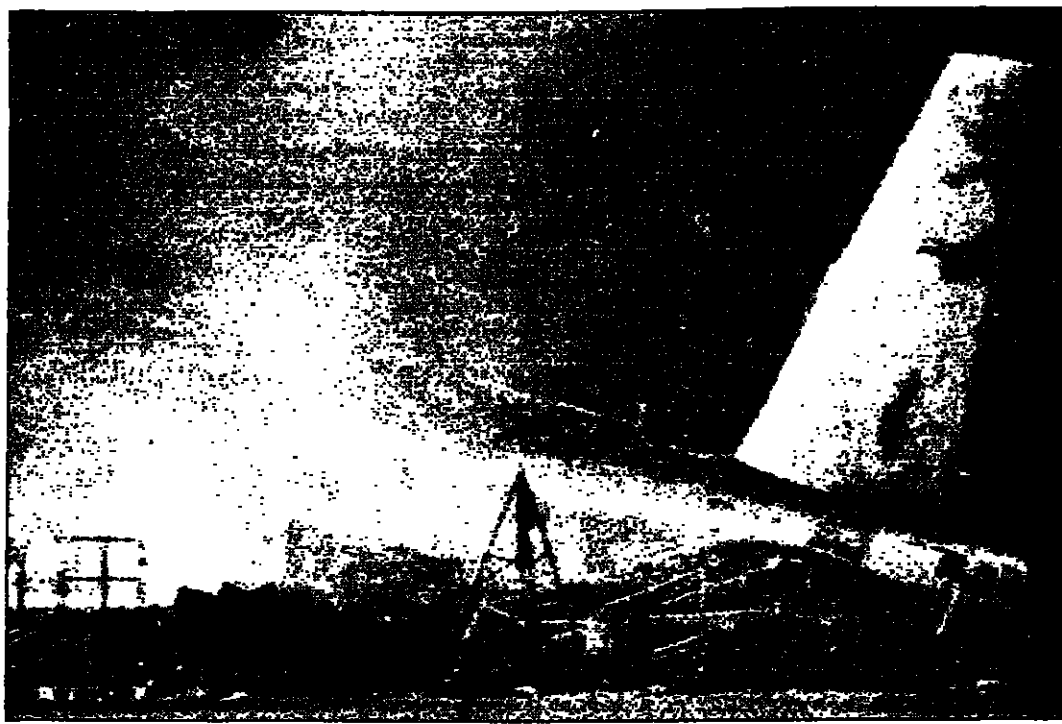
Sensitive
However, his position would have put Bloch, a native Austrian who left the country aged three with his Jewish parents, at the centre of sensitive US-Austrian negotiations over the illegal transfer of Western technology through Vienna to the East Bloc.

Spaniard elected to presidency of European Parliament

STRASBOURG, France, July 25, (Reuters) — Spanish Socialist Enrique Baron was elected President of the European Parliament today and promised to make the assembly a democratic watchdog of the European Economic Community.

With the support of his Socialists and the Christian Democrats, the two largest parliamentary groups, the 45-year-old Baron triumphed in the first ballot, capturing the votes of 301 of the 518 deputies.

A lawyer who speaks six of the EEC's nine



Fatal fire

The tail section of a B52-G bomber is all that remains after the plane caught fire on a ramp at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, while it was being fuelled late Monday. One person was killed and at least 11 hurt in the accident.

It originally was reported that fuel was being taken out of the plane for maintenance work at the time of the accident.

but base officials later said the cause was still being investigated.

The injured were taken to the Air Force's Wilford Hall Medical Centre for treatment, and a seven-member burn team was called to assist.

The identities of the victims were withheld pending notification of family members. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets keep eye on Bloch

Russians warned

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP) — The Soviets are showing extraordinary interest in the spy investigation against US State Department official Felix S. Bloch — even tailing him and the FBI to New York — despite a US warning not to interfere.

The unusual Soviet surveillance shows "they have a lot invested in this," said a government source familiar with the case.

The United States cautioned the Soviet Union against trying to smuggle Bloch out of the country, it was learned last evening. The warning came weeks before news organizations reported that the 30-year career diplomat was suspected of spying.

Still, Bloch and a caravan of FBI agents were followed by Soviet embassy personnel on Saturday from Washington to a New York City suburb, the government source said.

Formerly the No. 2 official in the US embassy in Vienna, the 54-year-old diplomat was placed on leave with pay on June 22. He has surrendered his diplomatic passport and his State Department credentials, but has not been charged with any crime nor has his travel been restricted.

Doubts have been raised that Bloch will ever come to trial.

"He might just end up being retired and put out to pasture," said an official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler confirmed yesterday that Bloch was relieved of his State Department building pass. Nevertheless, he was allowed back several times to remove personal possessions, close a credit union account and attend a seminar on East-West issues last week, she said.

Each time, Tutwiler said, Bloch was escorted by an agent from the department's Bureau of Diplomatic Security. But at the seminar, he still was introduced as the man in charge of the office dealing with US contacts with the European Economic Community. Tutwiler said that description was not authorized.

At the White House yesterday President George Bush acknowledged, "I've known about this matter for some time, and from the minute I heard about it I was aggrieved because it is a tragic thing should these allegations be true."

Asked whether US-Soviet relations would be affected by the incident, Bush, a former CIA director, told reporters, "It doesn't help any."

Asked if he knew the extent of the security leak, he said, "not yet. I don't think that anyone could give you a full damage assessment at this point. The investigation is going on. These are very serious matters and thorough investigation takes time. ... I'll have nothing else to say about it until the facts are known."

Two US sources said yesterday

that Bloch had been videotaped handing a briefcase to a Soviet agent in Paris earlier this year. The US television network ABC reported on a news programme that the same agent later telephoned Bloch to warn him he was under suspicion, saying, "A bad virus is going around and we believe you are infected."

The call came while Bloch's telephone was tapped by US agents but before the FBI first tried to interview him on June 22, the network said.

The sources spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Bloch is refusing through an attorney to be questioned by the FBI but submitted to a brief interview by State Department security officer early in the investigation, according to a government source.

Colleagues and friends of the former No. 2 US diplomat in Vienna — Bloch was a native of Austria — expressed surprise over his alleged espionage.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock said he learned of the investigation three weeks ago through "Austrian channels," the Austrian newspaper Kurier reported in its Sunday editions.

Mock said he was "deeply shaken" by news that his former classmate had come under investigation and stressed that he always was "very careful." Not to divulge secret or sensitive information to Bloch.

Mock suggested Bloch may have been tempted into espionage because of anger at being passed over for an ambassadorship, the newspaper said. Mock was quoted as saying, "In a long political career some people cannot resist the temptation. ... (Bloch) was an overambitious career diplomat who had suffered under politically appointed ambassadors and never himself became ambassador."

Officials and others who knew Bloch have praised him as one of the most competent American diplomats they had known, and say they cannot believe he betrayed his country.

Bloch most recently has been director of the Office of Regional Political-Economic Affairs on the State Department's European desk.

After Bloch fell under suspicion, the Soviets were informed through diplomatic channels, in a message described as "discreet," that US relations with Moscow would be damaged if they tried to make off with the diplomat, a US official disclosed.

"So far, they have observed the admonition," said the official.

But FBI agents tailing Bloch on Saturday on a trip to New York were followed in turn by Soviet embassy personnel, according to another government source.

The Soviets followed a caravan of FBI agents driving behind Bloch from Washington to Chappaqua, New York, where one of his daughters lives.

Solidarity ready to form entire cabinet

WARSAW, July 25, (Agencies) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa met President Wojciech Jaruzelski today for talks on forming a new Polish government, saying he would propose a Solidarity administration.

Walesa drove into the courtyard of the Belvedere presidential palace in the style of a visiting foreign dignitary, with his car flying a red-and-white pennant bearing the Solidarity logo.

"I believe in everything. Anything is possible," he told a Reuters reporter who asked him as he left his hotel if he believed a Solidarity government could emerge from the meeting.

Walesa told Polish Radio in an interview broadcast shortly before the meeting with Jaruzelski that he would suggest either a totally Solidarity government or remaining in opposition.

"We have two proposals: One is the whole government for the opposition, including the prime minister and the two difficult ministries (defence and interior). The other is that we stay in opposition and prepare a shadow government," Walesa said.

It was the first time Walesa has backed a proposal to form a Solidarity government following the opposition movement's crushing defeat of the ruling communists in parliamentary elections last month.

The leader of the Solidarity caucus in the Polish Parliament, Bronislaw Geremek, has said flatly that Solidarity had no intention of forming a new government in the near future, and Walesa is known to share this position.

But top Solidarity strategists have proposed a Solidarity-led government with major portfolios like defence and interior reserved for communists.

Jaruzelski, the Communist Party leader elected president of Poland last week, has given no hint that he would agree to appoint a Solidarity prime minister, and Walesa indicated that his proposals may only be a bargaining position.

"My two proposals are logical," he told the radio, "but in politics in most cases one acts in an illogical way and most probably it will be no different here."

Poland's prime minister earlier warned that the communist state faced chronic government instability.

Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski, expected to be dropped shortly after only 10 months in office, said toppling governments could become a kind of national sport and a substitute for action to resolve Poland's economic and social problems.

On the eve of their meeting in Warsaw, Rakowski told the Communist Party daily Trybuna Ludu that Poland was entering a period of chronic government instability.

He said Poland was facing economic hard times in which some sectors of society would suffer, but fundamental reform of the economy could not be achieved in a few short years.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother saves baby: A mother's desperate push saved the life of her 2-month-old boy in a stroller, but she was killed when she couldn't dodge a car steered by an allegedly drunken driver.

The car, going in reverse at high speed, struck and killed Claire Ordonez, 29, on Sunday, said police Sgt Raymond O'Donnell.

"She was trying to put her hands out to stop the car," said Charlie Moore, one of those who tried to help the victim. "She didn't have time to get herself out of the way, but she did save the baby."

Witnesses and police said Ms. Ordonez who was walking with family members in the Bronx at the time of the accident. She saved her baby Julio Cesar Ordonez, by pushing the boy's carriage with such force that it went nearly across the street, they said. (AP)



Looking for help

National Drug Policy Director William Bennett, left, and New York City Mayor Ed Koch talk to reporters Monday after Koch and 17 other mayors met with Bennett. The mayors requested a total of \$3 billion in aid to their cities to fight the war on drugs. (Reuters wirephoto)

agement and influence-peddling at the department of housing and urban development during the Reagan administration.

Frank also charged that many witnesses during the hearings appeared to have committed perjury and said the Justice Department should conduct its own investigations instead of relying on Congress or HUD to refer cases for investigation. (AP)

Minister sentenced: A Cuban tribunal sentenced former transport minister Diocles Torralbas to 20 years in prison and seized property he bought with unauthorized government funds, the official Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported yesterday.

Torralbas, who also served as vice-president of the Council of Ministers until his June 13 arrest, was found guilty by the popular provincial tribunal of Havana for mismanaging funds and material resources. (UPI)

Costly clean up: The Alaska oil spill clean-up could cost up to \$1.3 billion, according to figures released by Exxon and estimates by oil industry analysts.

The figures mean the biggest oil spill in US history is also one of the most costly industrial accidents ever.

Exxon Corp. said yesterday its second-quarter earnings were reduced by \$850 million due to the costs of cleaning up the portion of Alaska's coast that was fouled with 11 million gallons of oil when the tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on a reef in Prince William Sound in March. (Reuters)

Retrial bid: The bid for a new trial to exonerate a convicted rapist who is on parole and whose victim recalled her charges four years ago cleared two hurdles in circuit court yesterday.

Circuit judge Thomas R. Fitzgerald denied two motions by prosecutors to dismiss the petition for a new trial filed by Gary Dotson's attorney, Thomas Breen.

"It's great," Breen said afterward. "We're 90 per cent there."

The state argued that the statute of limitations expired two years after Dotson's 1979 conviction on charges of rape and aggravated kidnapping. (AP)

No prosecution: The Justice Department has no current plans to prosecute a former federal housing official criticised for awarding millions of dollars in subsidies to developers who had contributed to a charity he helped found, a congressman disclosed yesterday.

Congressman Barney Frank released the letter as a house subcommittee resumed hearings into misman-

Pope names new bishop in the Soviet Union

VATICAN CITY, July 25, (Reuters) — Pope John Paul today named a new Roman Catholic bishop in the Soviet Union, in another sign of improving relations between the Vatican and Moscow.

A Vatican statement said the Pope had appointed Father Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz, 43, as bishop of Minsk, capital of Byelorussia. The bishopric had been vacant since World War II and its previous bishop died in exile in Belgium in 1981.

The statement said Kondrusiewicz would be in charge of the pastoral care of the estimated two million Catholics in the Soviet republic, which borders the heavily Catholic Ukraine and the Pope's native Poland.

Deputy Vatican spokesman, father Giovanni D'Ercole, said the appointment had great importance for Catholics in Byelorussia. Communist authorities in Moscow and Minsk had not objected to the move.

"In the new spirit of the government in the

Soviet Union, we informed the authorities in Byelorussia and in Moscow of the appointment and they had no objections," D'Ercole said.

There has been a gradual warming in relations between the Vatican and Moscow since June, 1988, when a top-level Catholic delegation visited the Soviet Union for celebrations marking the millennium of Russian Christianity.

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The Catwalk

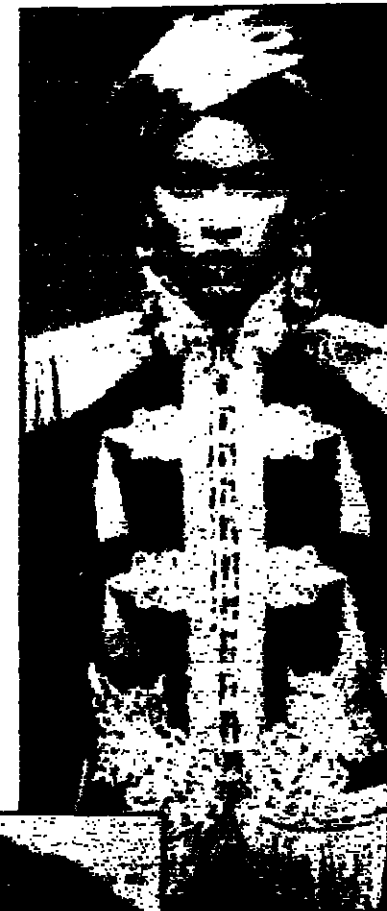
Christian Dior presents this look entitled 'bain de minuit' featuring a large bow at the neck.



Chanel presented this pink satin jacket with black embroidery.



Jean-Louis Scherrer presented this oriental look (below) as part of his fall-winter 1989-90 high fashion collection in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)



Designers show fashions fit for a queen

A trip to dreamland

PARIS, July 25, (Agencies): Extravagant was the name of the couture game yesterday as couturiers took a trip to dreamland in their winter couture shows. Just after the celebration of the French Revolution bicentennial, designers seem intent on bringing back clothes fit for a queen.

The biggest news was at Dior, as the Italian couturier Gianfranco Ferre nearly brought down the tent in an outdoor show at the gardens of the Salomon-Rothschild Foundation. Ferre, named last May to replace Marc Bohan, was chosen to add spice to the world's most prestigious label.

Ferre obviously made the grade, with his opulent collection of fitted couture clothes that led off with a waist-cinching fitted black crepe redingote topped with a stovepipe hat. He finally wound up in a Dioreque whirl of strapless ball gowns with tulle petticoats, wrapped sable stoles and jackets, plus huge organza bows, and bouquets of lily of the valley—an old favourite at the house of Dior.

The bearded, barrel-shaped Ferre, who would not look amiss singing the final aria in an Italian opera, won a round of "bravos" from the audience and even appeared to have won over purists outraged by the choice of an Italian to represent one of France's most famous names.

"I think he wanted to make a complete break with Bohan and say 'This is what Dior is all about and this is me'," commented Elle magazine journalist Françoise Veronesi.

Another Ferre strong point was the way he played with fabric, knotting a cape in a bow below the chin, sending out a line of coats and dresses where the material fell in drapes from the neck and offering slinky evening dresses where wraps turned into trains and vice versa.

Colours were stark—black, white and grey warmed on occasion by a flash of red or emerald green, used again in some queenly sequinned ball gowns and glistening cocktail frocks.

"I was trying to capture the spirit of femininity, the grandeur," explained 44-year-old Ferre. "I wanted things to be both very straight and very soft, because that's the way women are today," he added.

Ferre managed to combine all the sumptuous fabrics and furs in rigorously constructed clothes that looked both retrospective and beautifully modern. He did a marvellous job of making red or pearl-grey Persian lamb look like embroidered lace on a strapless sheath evening gown. He made fitted suits of creamy-beige ostrich leather look soft and feminine.

Ferre showed skirt lengths flatteringly around mid-knee for daytime—or opted for dressy trousers above the anklebone.

Hem lengths were irrelevant in most of the dazzling parades of riches.

Jamaican singer Grace Jones, sporting some pin-striped tails by Jean-Paul Gaultier, and Paloma Picasso were among those who rushed to congratulate Ferre after the show.

Dior's young managing director, Beatrice Bompard, criticised the undignified manner in which she got rid of the 62-year-old Bohan, hailed Ferre's show as a triumph.

"You always take a risk choosing a replacement for an institution like Dior but I think this collection shows we made the right choice."

"It's a trip abroad, a dream," said Jean-Louis Scherrer, who decked out his daughter and favourite model Laetitia like a glamorous toy soldier, complete with gold tasseled epaulettes and braid-edged cap.

Scherrer was also on the road to India, which he trod a few years ago. This time the nawabs and memsahibs looked richer than ever, in their lame-shot sat silk and chiffons, galloon-edged boleros, rich shades of panne velvet and Persian embroideries worn with silk and gold lame turbans.

"You could wear this with jeans," said Scherrer, gesturing to a richly braided military jacket with gold frog buttons.

Chocolate is hot for next winter's couture, and Scherrer went all out for the browns, jazzing them up with shades of red from flame and coral to cyclamen, plus some peacock and royal blue.

Balmain's designer Erik Mortensen also used prodigious amounts of expensive fabrics in a royally successful extravaganza. The man who practically reinvented shorts for couture this time went in for pedal-pusher pants, making them extraordinarily beautiful with their tops of little bright teal blue, pistachio or flame flared jackets with bold buttons and funnel collars.

Mortensen pulled off a clever trick by covering bodies with full tent-like shapes, then baring legs clad in tights with gold Persian embroidery up the sides. Among the memorable coats were the grey-black-white pyramids in mohair and Mongolian goat, and the red and green lace models tufted with marabout or ostrich—fun, but not very warm.

The gold, copper and lame silk dresses stiffened like thin sheets of metal were draped perfectly, slit up the leg for walking. But they also dragged fishtail-trains, better for standing

around than circulating at a cocktail party. The joy of it was that even piling on fabrics, stiff ruffles and sparkling details, Mortensen made it all look floaty and light.

Pierre Cardin got an enthusiastic hand for his winter collection, which sparked with enough titillating geometric details to evoke the couturier's old magic.

He was obviously tired of short skirts showing very few. He preferred a mid-calf narrow skirt, or else no skirt at all—just a long jacket over tights, or slightly flared pants.

Shoulders were natural or eclipsed by important collars, always a strong point with Cardin, who knows how to play with shapes like a kid with cutouts.

The favourite waistline was dropped to the hip, emphasized by a narrow leather belt, the coat gathered like a ruffle beneath it.

The fun popped up in high-collared shortie coats edged at the armhole in fake fur or Mongolian lamb, in leather-banned sleeveless sweater-coats, or in caped poncho looks.

New designs weren't the only show-stealers. The sidelining of top mannequin Ines De La Fressange, by Chanel has set the catwalks abuzz.

The aristocratic Ines, one of the world's highest-paid models, has been the star of Chanel collections since she joined the classic fashion house in 1984, a symbol of the fresh new spirit brought in by West German designer Karl Lagerfeld.

But Chanel recently announced the 31-year-old model would not take part in Tuesday's autumn and winter collection, citing health problems as the reason for her sudden absence.

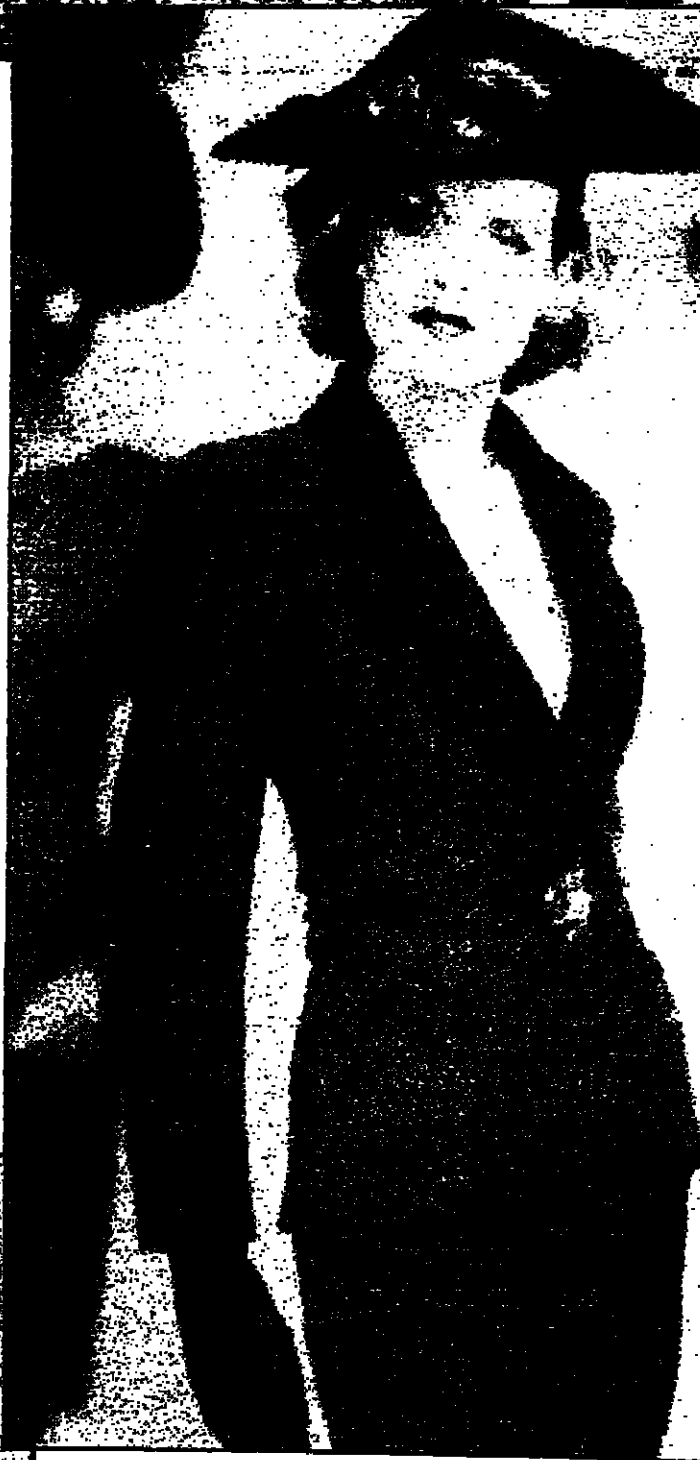
Lagerfeld elevated the daughter of a French marquis to stardom by allotting her his favourite outfits and using her aquiline features to launch Chanel's perfumes.

"At the moment I feel she is not on very good form and maybe it's best for her to rest a little. If you read the papers you'll know that she has had personal problems and maybe it's best for her to recover," he told a television interviewer yesterday.

The pony-tailed designer denied suggestions that her influence could outweigh his at Chanel and seized the opportunity to issue what sounded like a warning to the woman whose career he has played such a crucial role in launching.

"Modelling's a very dangerous profession, you always have to think about the thousands of young girls behind you, nothing is ever certain in that world," he said.

Christian Dior presents this tailored suit (above) as part of his fall-winter high fashion collection for 1989-90 in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)



Philippe Venet presented this tailored suit with low neckline (left) and tricorn hat with hole for hair to be seen, as part of his fall-winter high fashion collection in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)



Pierre Cardin presented the mid-length pleated dress with 'bunny' style hat (above) as part of his fall-winter high fashion collection in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)



Italian designer Gianfranco Ferre (above) waves to spectators at the end of the Christian Dior 1989-90 autumn-winter high fashion collection in Paris yesterday. Ferre joined the Dior house last summer to replace designer Marc Bohan. (Reuter wirephoto)



Pierre Balmain presented this striking cape (right) decorated in gold lame as part of his fall-winter 1989-90 high fashion collection in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)

Purrrrrrs

Youths rage in anger as Arab shot dead

Gaza soldiers jailed for stealing money

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 25, (Agencies): A 20-year-old Palestinian died today after being shot in the neck and head in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, setting off tyre-burning demonstrations in the town on the Egyptian border, Arab reports said.

In the Gaza Strip, Fawzi Mohammed Elidawil, 20, died of injuries suffered in a clash with soldiers a day earlier.

The Army confirmed the death of Elidawil, which brought to 520 the number of Palestinians who have died in clashes with Israelis during the uprising. Thirty-eight Israelis also have been killed.

As word of the death spread today, youths in Rafah's crowded

At least 84 Palestinians have been killed as suspected collaborators by fellow Arabs during the uprising.

Police confirmed, meanwhile, that two members of the paramilitary border police will be tried for killing a Palestinian near his house in the West Bank village of Tammra last March.

The charges were brought after the Haaretz newspaper reported that no investigation was carried out more than two months after the death of the 26-year-old farmer, despite Army claims that the death was being probed.

A police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that no investigation was made immediately because of a misunderstanding between the Army and border police over who should conduct the probe.

The Army also confirmed today that four soldiers were given jail terms of up to four and one-half years for stealing from Arabs in the occupied Gaza Strip, the heaviest sentence against a soldier in the 19-month Palestinian uprising.

The longest previous sentence was 21-months in the case of a death, and the newspaper Haaretz quoted the military judges who tried the case as saying: "We have never before seen such a gross misuse of the uniform and the weapon, with which the soldiers stole money."

An Army spokeswoman said three soldiers got sentences of from two and one-half years to four and one-half years. The fourth was sentenced to 18 months.

The soldiers stole thousands of shekels from Palestinians on at least seven different occasions, said the spokeswoman.

In Jerusalem, police spokesman Rafi Levi confirmed that charges would be brought against two border policemen in the killing of Salem Ismail Mubarak in the West Bank last March 30.

Haaretz, which exposed the case, said Mubarak was a father of four who was ploughing a field in the village near Bethlehem when youths involved in a clash with police fled into the field.

Mubarak took cover, but emerged when he thought the incident was over. At that point, Haaretz said, he was shot in the head by a border policeman who then drove off, leaving Mubarak bleeding in the field.

Haaretz quoted police officials as saying two police would be tried because, with the botched investigation, it was not possible to tell which man shot the victim.

Also today, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kolkol protested a curfew which continued for a second day on the Abu Tur neighbourhood, complaining that the action was taken to collect back taxes.

Kolkol said "the police have the right to declare a curfew to maintain security and the rule of law throughout Jerusalem, but this other activity is morally dubious."

Police said they arrested 15 Abu Tur residents for questioning in connection with past unrest in the neighbourhood, including the throwing of firebombs at Israeli cars. Israel radio said tax officials are taking part in the door-to-door searches.

Palestinian leaders from the Israeli-occupied territories said they were willing to hold official meetings with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir amid mounting reports of secret talks with the right-wing premier.

Palestinian and Israeli sources said yesterday PLO backers, meaning that Shamir has violated a government ban on contacts with the group.

A dozen children sit in a circle in the shade of a bedouin tent learning to sing an Arabic song.

What is unusual about the scene is that the tent is on the front lawn of the Jerusalem International YMCA, and the children are Israeli Jews.

Convinced that language can be a bridge to friendship, the YMCA has started Arabic lessons for the 1,200 Hebrew-speaking children in its summer camp programme.

A Swedish court, meeting behind locked doors in a police station, ordered three Palestinians held in jail for a further four weeks for investigation on terrorist charges.

Sabara district set up roadblocks and burned tyres in protest, Arab reporters said. They said one man was wounded when soldiers opened fire to disperse the protesters.

In the West Bank, two Palestinians were shot and wounded in a clash with soldiers in Ramallah and a third was hit in the face and chest with 11 rubber-coated metal pellets used by troops to put down riots, hospital officials said.

A 36-year-old Palestinian was stabbed by masked youths in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus as an alleged collaborator with Israeli authorities, Arab reports said. He was reported in serious condition.



Chatting soldier

An Israeli soldier kneels as he chats with a Palestinian youngster after a brief outburst of unrest. The soldier carries an automatic rifle fitted with a barrel extension used to fire plastic coated steel balls. (Reuters wirephoto)

Banks survive test

Escapism, a winning formula

Beirut by night

BEIRUT, July 25, (Reuters): When the shelling over Beirut gets really bad, barman Habib Naimieh knows what to do — drown it out with rock and roll.

Escapism has proved a winning formula for West Beirut's back street bar, which does some of its best business when the artillery duels are at their worst.

"I didn't want to hear the boom boom," said patron Ali Hassan who headed for the bar, famous for its loud music, at the sound of the first shell in a typical night of fear recently.

"The sound is very annoying. I prefer to come here rather than stay home and count the outgoing and incoming shells," he said.

As he spoke a waiter ran in to report shells falling nearby, saying: "an ambulance and a truck carrying wounded Syrian soldiers passed by. Syrian troops were firing in the air."

Hassan turned on the water in fury: "I've paid \$20,000 (\$40) so far to get drunk and forget the hell out there... come inside and ignore it."

Naimieh has kept the bar open throughout four months of savage artillery duels between Christian-led forces and Syrian troops backing Lebanese Muslim allies.

Naimieh has kept the bar open throughout four months of savage artillery duels between Christian-led forces and Syrian troops backing Lebanese Muslim allies.

"Whenever there is shelling, we turn the music up. We do everything to distract our clients," he said. Behind him, patrons dined on the tables.

"People are challenging death. They want to enjoy life while they can. It is a madhouse," said Naimieh, struggling to keep up with demands for French champagne.

His business, unlike others, has boomed since mid-March when Christian Army commander Michel Aoun declared his "war of liberation" against Syria's 40,000 troops in Lebanon.

Back street patrons — mainly doctors from the American Hospital, students and foreign relief workers, journalists, diplomats, well-off Beirutis and sons of Lebanon's warlords — start flocking in at 10 pm.

Maintaining the trappings of normal life despite the war, they arrive bedecked in jewellery and wearing the latest fashions, stepping out of luxury cars at the door.

to the net assets of the banking system which is extremely liquid.

This cheerful picture contrasts with the extensive damage most of Lebanon's private sector has sustained during the war.

Many businessmen and industrialists are unable to repay loans or meet interest payments on time. In some cases, the collateral behind their borrowing has become devalued.

Financial experts say the banks in fact have had little choice but to roll over unpaid debts and interest year by year.

Unofficial estimates said about \$500 million have been withdrawn from Lebanon's banks to foreign ones since mid-March when the last round of civil war flared.

Factories lie in ruins, trade has slumped and workers' remittances have dwindled. The balance of payments has held up mainly because of agricultural exports from areas away from the fighting.

Lebanon has about 83 commercial banks and the decline in trade led to a sharp drop in the volume of letters of credit, normally a major source of bank earnings.

anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

"They started the hunger strike yesterday because they were not allowed to pray. We have no such facilities for them here," one source said.

The last group of 82 detained women were freed after being taken to the buffer zone in buses under cover of darkness early today to avoid protests from Turkish Cypriots angered by what they considered light sentences.

Factories, shops and offices in the southern sector of the island stopped for an hour in a shutdown by many of the 570,000 Greek Cypriots to protest the men's detention.

Arafat under pressure

Call for violence gains ground

TUNIS, July 25, (Agencies): PLO leader Yasser Arafat, in preparation for a major meeting of his Fatah movement, is fighting to hold back a growing body of Palestinian opinion in favour of escalating violence.

Arafat's aides and PLO officials from outside Fatah say they expect a major confrontation when hundreds of Fatah delegates gather next week, in either Tunis or Algiers, for the movement's first general congress since 1980.

The leadership is still strong and it has logic on its side but that doesn't mean it won't face a forceful attack.

Salah Khalaf, Arafat's deputy in Fatah, told Reuters in an interview last evening.

Khalaf, better known as Abu Iyad, said Arafat's critics argued that the PLO had gained nothing through the peace initiative it launched in Algiers last November.

In the Palestinian National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, proclaimed a Palestinian state and accepted that this state would co-exist with Israel.

One month later Arafat renounced "terrorism" and recognised Israel's right to exist. Fatah has since suspended all military operations against Israeli targets.

Abu Iyad said the critics wanted the PLO to harden its political stance and resume military operations outside the occupied territories, where Palestinians armed with stones and petrol bombs are waging a rebellion against Israeli rule.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a political adviser to Arafat, told Reuters that the PLO chairman was having great difficulty

fending off appeals for a more violent response to Israel's attempts to put down the intifada (uprising).

"He's receiving delegations from inside the occupied territories who tell him 'don't worry about the money, don't worry about the food, just give us the guns,'" he said.

He predicted that unless the peace process made more rapid progress the PLO could lose control and the intifada might degenerate into acts of random violence against Israelis.

"The moment will come when every Palestinian child takes a knife and kills an Israeli," one Fatah member said. A senior PLO official from a non-Fatah faction said there has always been a sceptical wing in Fatah and this expanded and contracted according to perceptions of Arafat's performance.

"It shrank when Arafat went to France in May but at the moment it's larger than it has been for some time," he said.

Palestinian leader George Habash has warned that US interests in the Middle East would be in danger if Washington does not recognise Palestinian rights for a homeland, the Kuwaiti daily Al Anba reported today.

Habash, who heads the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said: "The PLO will not be cheated by the American manoeuvres."

"The United States should know that its interests in the region will be in actual jeopardy if it fails to respond to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," he said in an interview in Tunis.

Minister challenges convert ruling

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 25, (Reuters):

Israel's ultra-religious Interior Minister Arye Deri has challenged a ruling that non-orthodox converts must be registered as Jews on their identity cards, saying he would no longer sign the documents.

The Supreme Court had ruled yesterday that people converted by conservative or reform rabbis must be registered as Jews.

Deri, of the Shas party, said that from today each card would read: "The registration on this identity card regarding nationality and personal status is not even apparent proof of accuracy." He said his party's spiritual leaders decided the law did not oblige him or the ministry's registration clerk to sign the identity cards.

"It was a good custom until now, assuming that I was signing that the details on the identity cards are true, but if the court says I have no authority to decide, then there will be no signature," Deri told Israel television.

He said the cards would allow people converted to Judaism by non-orthodox rabbis to enjoy civilian rights and privileges, but not religious ones. Mainly, they could not be married in Israel.

In a separate ruling, the court said yesterday that reform rabbis, the least strict of three main wings of Judaism, could not perform weddings in Israel.

Deri said the rabbinate in charge of registering marriages in Israel would no longer use the identity cards as proof that a person was Jewish, but would rely only on witnesses.

Non-orthodox converts are already banned from marrying in Israel. "From a practical point of view, the decision changes the attitude towards the cards but not the real situation," Deri said.

The Supreme Court ruling reopened a decades-long conflict between orthodox Jews who control Israeli religious institutions and diaspora Jews who are mostly non-orthodox.

In Israel, it sparked harsh criticism from religious politicians and the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel Party threatened to quit the government over the decision.

The Rabbinical Council of the Supreme Court ruling that all converts be registered as Jews.

Max Schreier, President of the RCA, the leading US Orthodox rabbinical council, told a news conference:

"Conversion is an act of halacha (Jewish law), and when there are people who openly did not conform to the law of conversion as it has been for thousands of years, for them to be registered as Jews is a travesty for any kind of law."

Schreier said he would not consider the identity cards proof of Judaism for marriage, divorce or burial ceremonies.

Fire rages

ANKARA, July 25, (Reuters): A forest fire is raging on Turkey's western coast, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency said today.

The fire near Urla, south of the Aegean port of Izmir, has destroyed 350 hectares (875 acres) of pine forest since Sunday, it said.

At stake is how big a landslide

Iranians urged for all-out vote

NICOSIA, July 25, (Agencies):

Iranian media pushed today for a high turnout in presidential polls in which the only issue is how big a landslide Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani will win.

The pragmatic parliamentary speaker faces a relatively obscure politician as his only rival in the elections on Friday, being held less than two months after the death of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Iranians will also vote on constitutional amendments eliminating the post of prime minister and giving more power to the president, whose diplomatically isolated nation faces serious economic problems.

"People don't expect me to put up posters and photos," Rafsanjani was quoted as saying in an interview with Tehran's Jomhuri Islami daily a few days ago.

Rafsanjani's chances are so solid that the media, much of it controlled by Rafsanjani's brother Mohammad and their allies, are even speculating on who will have in his cabinet.

Polls published by some newspapers said he will take 86 per cent of the vote.

Tehran Radio said a large turnout would give the new leader a strong mandate so he could tackle domestic and international problems confidently.

"This shows that vast participation in the elections, apart from being a religious duty, is a national necessity in line with the best interests of the country."

"Your vote and mine are steps towards the country's complete independence and a blow to international arrogance," the Tehran Radio announcer told the public in a broadcast monitored in Nicosia.

Abrar newspaper said a large turnout would "shatter the West's hope that after the Imam (Khomeini) developments in Iran will take a turn towards its

long-awaited wishes."

"The enemy must once and for all realise that it has no place in Iran," it said.

Tehran residents said large campaign banners hung from traffic bridges and lamp posts in the capital's squares, almost all advertising Rafsanjani, 54, as the most suitable man for the country's top executive job.

The bottom half of the front-page of today's edition of Iran's largest daily Kayhan was filled with advertisements for Rafsanjani signed by the influential Islamic societies of Tehran bazaar and the Tehran militant clergy association — two of the many groups which have endorsed his presidency.

Rafsanjani's only opponent is Member of Parliament and former Agriculture Minister Abbas Sheibani, a French-trained doctor. He said in a radio speech today that Rafsanjani, Parliamentary Speaker since 1980, could serve the country better in the legislature.

But Tehran newspapers already speak of Rafsanjani as president and predict close co-operation between him and incumbent President Ali Khamenei, chosen as spiritual leader to succeed Khomeini.

"Ayatollah Khamenei as the president is what the late leader Imam Khomeini would have desired," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted the daily Etefaat as saying.

Voting will take place for 10 hours at 25,000 polling stations across Iran, and 62 at Iranian legations abroad. Voting age is 15 and some 24 million people are eligible to vote.

Rafsanjani, who is also acting commander of armed forces, said in a televised speech last week that reviving the economy was the nation's main task.

Mother will wait

A fast fast

CAIRO, July 25, (AP): An American woman today abandoned after one day a hunger strike began to press for a meeting with President Mubarak about her son's imprisonment as a CIA spy.

Egyptian-born Rose Wassef, of Detroit, said she stopped the fast because Mubarak is in Ethiopia, where he was named chairman of the Organisation of African Unity at its summit meeting.

"I will wait until President Mubarak returns," Wassef said. "If I am not given an interview then, I will start the hunger strike again."

Last Thursday, a few days after he was charged, he was convicted in a 90-minute trial of selling non-military information to an agent of the US Central Intelligence Agency. The alleged contraband information dealt with topics like Muslim fundamentalism and the Egyptian economy, which Wassef said he gathered and reported as a journalist.

Wassef's 30-year-old American brother Samir, a pediatrician in the United States, was convicted in his absence and received an identical sentence.

Another absent defendant, Nicholas Edward Reynolds, identified in court documents as a CIA agent who bought information from the brothers, was sentenced to five years in jail and a fine of £5,000 pounds (\$1,925).

Defence attorneys and the Wassef family contend the Egyptian government pursued the case because it needed a person to trade with the Americans for Abdelkader Helmy.

He is an Egyptian-born American jailed in the United States after pleading guilty in a plea bargain to one count of illegally shipping forbidden military technology to Egypt in a scheme allegedly involving high-ranking Egyptian military figures.

82 women released

Members of the Cyprus Union of Journalists marched through the divided capital, Nicosia, carrying placards demanding the men's release.

The protesting journalists called on the embassies of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and demanded urgent action to free the men.

Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş said the protests had cast doubt over reunification talks with Cyprus President George Vassiliou.

Political sources said the Turkish Cypriot cabinet had not made a final decision on whether Denktaş should meet Vassiliou tomorrow, as scheduled.

Sources close to Denktaş said it was possible that he would go to the meeting because he was under pressure from countries such as Britain and the United States to push the talks forward.

The treatment of the Greek-Cypriot protesters has inflamed anti-Turkish sentiment among Greek Cypriots after allegations of brutality by some of the freed women.

"The Turks are a race of barbarians," the right-wing Greek-Cypriot newspaper Simerini said.

Another right-wing newspaper, Alithia, said the protesters "came to know Turkish brutality first hand."

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Kurds protest

COPENHAGEN, July 25, Reuters: About 20 Turkish Kurds occupied the office of the human rights group Amnesty International in Copenhagen today to protest against the alleged deportation of Kurds from Turkey.

The demonstrators said the Turkish Army was destroying Kurdish villages near Mount Cudi in eastern Turkey and deporting the Kurdish population from the area, an Amnesty spokesman said.

Treatment refused

ANKARA, July 25, (Reuters): More than 40 left-wing prisoners on hunger strike in a Turkish jail are suffering internal bleeding but have refused medical treatment, a human rights activist said today.

"Some may become critical in the coming days," Sinan Yilmaz of Turkey's Ankara-based Human Rights Association told Reuters.

A total of 282 inmates at Eskisehir civilian jail in west Turkey are going without food in protest over restrictions on prison relations and visits by relatives and friends.

MWL deplores

MAKKAH, July 25, (KUNA): The Muslim World League (MWL) has deplored repressive measures undertaken by the Bulgarian authorities against the Turkish Muslims in Bulgaria.

The repressive measures against the Turkish Muslims in Bulgaria are flagrant violations of human rights, said a statement issued by the MWL general secretary, here last night.

In the statement, Dr Abdullah Omer Naseef, secretary-general of the Muslim World League and president of Facts Finding Committee, said nearly 3,500 persons arrive in Turkey every year to escape persecution by the Bulgarian authorities.

Observer status

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, July 25, (AP): The Palestine Liberation Organisation will ask the three Arab regional groupings to accept it as an observer, the Al-Bayan daily reported today.

It quoted Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the PLO's executive committee, as saying the decision had been taken by the committee, the organisation's highest policy-making body.

The three groups — the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council, the four-nation Arab Cooperation Council and the five-member Maghreb Union — amount for two-thirds of the Arab League's 22 members.

Likely to meet

NAIROBI, Kenya, July 25, (AP): Sudan's new military ruler said he would probably meet with the Sudanese rebel leader John Garang this week in Ethiopia, but a spokesman for Garang today said no such meeting had been discussed.

Sudanese Leader Lt. Col. Omar Hassan Ali Bashir yesterday said he would likely meet with the rebel leader while in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa for the annual Organisation of African Unity summit, according to Sudan's News Agency SUNA monitored in Nairobi.

US visit

WASHINGTON, July 25, (UPI): Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly, the US State Department's ranking expert on the Middle East, will visit three Middle East capitals next month, State Department officials said yesterday.

Abad Omer, who returned earlier this month in his new post, will travel to Cairo, occupied Jerusalem and Amman, State Department officials.

He will start the trip from Stockholm on August 2, where he will be meeting technical-level Soviet experts to discuss Afghanistan and other South Asia issues.

Iranian divorces

NICOSIA, July 25, (Reuters): An Iranian security official said yesterday that drug-taking was a major social problem responsible for 40 per cent of the country's divorces.

Abad Omer, quoted by the Iranian news agency IRNA, was speaking the day after Iran launched a major round-up of addicts who face jail or a labour camp.

Iran has executed more than 700 people described as drug traffickers since launching an anti-narcotics campaign in January.

Drug addicts, said to number one million in the population of more than 50 million, were given six months to quit or face internment.

Amnesty appeals

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Amnesty International appealed today to the government of Mauritania to end what it called a wave of human rights abuses by its security forces following clashes between Mauritians and Senegalese in both countries in April.

The world-wide human rights organisation said it has sent a message to President Maouya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya calling for a full impartial inquiry into the conduct of these forces in the West African nation.

Amnesty International said it had received "consistent and credible" reports of torture, extrajudicial executions and arbitrary arrest from many parts of Mauritania and that the situation in the southwest appeared to be particularly grave.

Ministers sacked

MOGADISHU, July 25, (Reuters): Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre has fired two ministers accusing them of anti-government activities, the official Soma News Agency said yesterday.

Major General Aden Abdullahi Noor and Mohamed Abdulle Ba'Adie were charged with "activities inimical to the sovereignty, unity and security of the country."

The same charge was brought against nine Islamic clerics in 1986. They were sentenced to death but granted clemency earlier this year.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon, 4 to 7.00 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Tareq Rajab Museum
Sat - Thurs.: 9-12 noon and 4-7 pm. Also open on Fridays from 9 to 12 noon.

SOCIAL

Kalpak exhibition
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian Embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those who are interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Sargavedi's Saakshi
AUGUST 3, (Thursday): Sargavedi, the cultural wing of Kuwait Kerala Cultural Congress, on the eve of Nehru Centenary celebrations, will be staging one of the most popular Malayalam social plays — Saakshi, at the Indian Arts Circle Auditorium at 6.30 pm. Written by Varughese Paul, directed by Jayan Pattathu and co-directed by Miss Shirley John, the characters are represented by Baby Thomas, C.C. Jose, Josekutty, Niman Thangalathil, Emmanuel, Babychah, Mrs Mary Sebastian, Mrs Annamma Kurian, Miss Shirley John and Miss Shiny John. Lyrics by Rajendra Babu, music direction Vimala. Lead singers are Unnikrishnan and Mrs Lekshmi Vijayakumar.

D'Assisi Social Evening
AUG 1: D'Assisi Association will hold their social evening at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The highlights of the evening will be the crowning of D'Assisi Queen. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will provide the music. For more

information contact Joe Jack Ferns on 5644178. Henry 3717346 or contact A.M. Fine Arms, Shop No. 34, Al Karak Super Market, near GPO, Kuwait.

Eid Mela
JULY 28: Eid Anando Mela organised by Nirjhar Cultural Group will be held at the Bangladesh embassy premises at 7.30 pm. Admission is free but it is advisable to collect your gate pass. For details please contact Tel: 3725675, 4313066, 4315759, 4315692.

United Goans
AUG 3: Summerbelle '89 is about to happen. United Goans Centre present "Top Ranks and Stepping Stones" in a music saturated evening at the Tent SAS Hotel. Crowning of Summerbelle, various competitions, etc. to keep you on your toes. For details contact: Moses 2454266, Joe 3653140. Aniket 2439249 after 6 pm.

Konkani drama
AUG 11: A Konkani drama entitled "Battli Ani Bazaar", directed by Pascoal Rodrigues will be held at the Indian Arts Circle, Funaisites at 10 am and 4 pm. Gate passes are available at Raja Stores and Alex Martins Shop.

KAPILKU Children's Contest
AUGUST 11: KAPILKU will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Sabiya. This coincides with Arav ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). Last date for submitting entries is July 28. For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVF, welfare and special projects. VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

Independents ball
AUGUST 17: At the Messilah Beach Hotel from 8.30 pm onwards. Organised by Kuwait Independents Hockey. For tickets and details contact F. D'Mello (2421252) or S. Bajaj (2445825) after 7.30 pm.

Tivim Centre
OCT. 26: Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Lot of surprises await. For further information contact the organisers.

HOTELS

Recreation centre
AT the Holiday Inn Health Club and Recreation Centre: Swimming lessons available all year round with qualified

swimming instructors. Open to non-members. Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 4 - 6.30 pm. Men's keep fit classes, Sunday and Tuesdays 6 - 7 pm. Ladies keep fit Saturday and Tuesday at 6 - 7 pm. Saturdays and Tuesdays (7 to 8 pm) yoga. Bowling alley available for private company and community tournaments. Sundays squash handicap tournament; all standards welcome, open to non-members. Squash coaching available from our two champions professional squash instructors. Learn the martial arts with our black belt instructor — Wednesdays and Mondays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Open to non-members.

Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals: weight loss, body building, massage (steam — oil — cream) for ladies and men. For more details contact the Recreation Department Tel. No. 4742000 Ext 6768 or 6700.

At the Holiday Inn
MANGO WEEK — upto July 31: Come and taste the sweetest mungo jumbo of delicious mango to make your day complete.

At the Coffee Shop: A variety of Continental and Oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.

At Andalus: Thursday — Arabian Night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

Family brunch: Friday — A wholesome day for the children. Bring them along and enjoy entertainment which includes Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises await each kid. Price KD5.000 for adults, and half per kid.

At the swimming pool: From 8.30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Be active, music, games, prizes and surprises await each one. Bring your family and friends and enjoy our delicious Shazard barbecue, at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

At the Messilah Beach
AL MUBARAKIAH: The only 24 hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

Al Jawharah Super Night Club: live entertainment by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet

on Thursdays.

Al Berdowneh beach garden restaurant open daily Sunday-Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills. Lebanese Mezza, freshly baked Markouk bread and Hubble Bubble.

At the Kuwait Plaza
BREAKFAST with a difference: Continental, American and Arabic breakfast at Al Dallas coffee shop with exotic desserts, delicious dishes and tempting Arabic fowl and hommos plus Plaza touch. A daily buffet from 6.00 am till 11.00 am. All these and more for \$1.995 only.

Celebration of fund and games: Every Friday from 12.00 noon until 4.30 pm a brunch full of tempting dishes, delicious food, Lebanese Mezza, fresh fruits, mouth watering sweets and all kinds of games for you and your children plus a gift for every child along with Walt Disney characters and the "Blue Bird Band". A unique ambience, only KD3.000 per child and KD4.000 per adult.

Authentic Italian atmosphere: Marco Polo, the Italian restaurant in the heart of the city features all sorts of authentic Italian dishes prepared before your own very eyes. It gives you the feeling that you are nearly in the heart of Rome. Enjoy also the music of Stan and Alice the most celebrated duo in Kuwait.

At the SAS hotel
Visit the Far East with SAS. Relish the wide variety of authentic Chinese delicacies served in a very elegant surrounding the Peacock Room. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 352.

Try something new Italian specialties served in a very cozy Italian setting. Bistretto at the SAS. We also serve a delicious selection of continental Arabic dishes. Open daily, breakfast lunch and dinner. We serve brunch every Friday.

Welcome on board Al Boom. Dine on our delicious mezzah buffet. Dinner daily and lunch every Thursday and Saturday. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

Clock at the SAS club. The only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait offers wide varieties of fast food specialties.

At the Hotel Pullman
AT the Elysees Restaurant: everyday, authentic French cuisine at the Pullman Hotel, Kuwait.

At the Al Shaila coffee shop: International and Arabic cuisine with live music nightly.

Military medicos to be upgraded

Plan to attract Kuwaitis

A PLAN to develop the military medical services in Kuwait based on scientific medical research in different fields is being undertaken by the medical services department at the Ministry of Defence, according to the director, Dr Rashed Al Ameri.

Studies

The enhancement of the potentials of these medical

services are intended to benefit personnel of the Army, Navy and Air Force, the official said.

He added that his department has made several recommendations and drawn up a plan to attract Kuwaiti doctors to work in defence. The ministry offers attractive allowances to induce these personnel to join the services.

Furthermore, the ministry

also provides new graduates with every assistance to pursue their studies abroad with the objective of specialising in disciplines which would qualify them to work in the military medical sector.

Military doctors need special training as they have obligations that are different from those of their civil counterparts. The former are called upon to work in

difficult circumstances over long periods of time, the official said and recommended that allowances for military doctors should be above those provided to those in the same category in the Ministry of Health.

The Ministry of Defence is studying the issue of allowances along with other aspects which directly affect the image of the services, the official said.

Hawalli security of high calibre

THE Hawalli Governorate exerts every effort to apprehend and bring to justice all persons who have been cited for involvement in cases of impropriety in commercial dealings.

The police centres of the governorate attend to all formalities and demands received from the Ministry of Justice, Abdul Latif Al Barges, the governor of Hawalli said.

He commented that security personnel often encounter some difficulties in apprehending suspects due to lack of proper addresses and other vital particulars. He called on relevant authorities at the Ministry of Justice to provide as far as possible, comprehensive details of the suspect — preferably according to the details of the civil cards.

"The Civil Identity Card should be used in all transactions as it is the ideal instrument to ascertain the identity of an individual," Barges said.

On a different level, the official said that his governorate has endeavoured to provide a high level of environmental appearance at different areas in the governorate. Many positive steps to organise and enhance the environment — specially afforestation plans have been undertaken, the official said.

Renovation
The official called for a continuation of efforts to beautify the fronts of buildings, squares and other surroundings. In a beautification move, the Ministry of Public Works is paving the roads while the Ministry of Electricity and Water is now changing the lamp posts at roads with newer ones — both practical and more appealing.

The existence of a large number of pedlars at roads and buildings deform the civilised face of the country, poses security hazards and causes inconveniences to both citizens and traffic, the official said.

Elucidating, he said that drivers stopping suddenly to purchase items from these pedlars cause accidents. Further, the food sold by pedlars can deteriorate rapidly due to the harsh weather and is a potential health hazard to citizens.

He denied that Hawalli Governorate prevents pedlars who are licensed by the municipality from selling their goods in public places. They are permitted to sell their goods at the places specialised for car parks at the Water Front Project which will not cause security or traffic problems.

Barges said that he will discuss the allocation of places at the motorways for licensed pedlars with the minister of state for municipal affairs. He added that the municipality is called upon to organise the operations of pedlars and relevant authorities are holding several meetings to arrive at optimum solutions.

Weather cause of zoo deaths

THE director of the office of the board chairman and director general of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Naser Ahmad Al Amir has said that sedative overdoses could not have been responsible for the death of certain animals at the Omariya Zoo, as the doses administered were carefully measured.

He told a local daily that the deaths of these animals were probably caused by climatic changes which the animal must put up with after leaving its natural habitat.

He reaffirmed the authority's concern for the well-being of all animals at the zoo, which will reflect on the performance level at the Animal Department at the authority.

He said that a special veterinary clinic had been established at the zoo with two doctors and a couple of staff who followed up the health condition of all animals and administered the required medicine to sick animals.

Arab agricultural growth rate highest world-wide

Statistics by FAO

FOR the first time in Arab agriculture endeavours the growth rate of agricultural production in the Arab world during 1980's registered the highest in the world. This fact was emphasised in a study published in Bahrain on Arab Agriculture in 1989.

The study pointed out that during the period 1980-1987, the agricultural production increased at a rate of 80 per cent in Saudi Arabia, 59 per cent in Libya and 35 per cent in Yemen, Iraq, Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt. Comparatively, the average growth rate of international agricultural production during the same period was 16 per cent, according to statistics provided by the Food and Agricultural Organisation.

Imports
Despite this growth in agricultural production, the Arab world still depend on food and agricultural imports to ensure 75 per cent of its food requirements. The study, therefore, urged the Arab world to allocate a larger share of resources for investment in the agricultural sector.

The study revealed that wheat production in Algeria amounted to 1.6 million tons in 1988 which is identical to what the country produced in 1987. Despite this fact, Algeria was forced to import double this amount of wheat to meet local requirement.

In Bahrain, government experiments on vegetable farming succeeded by using desalinated sewage water for irrigation. The Bahraini government also encouraged local farmers to utilise modern irrigation methods.

Methods
On the other hand, Egypt supported agricultural plans designed by the Egyptian Agricultural Ministry and opened the door for Arab investors to invest in the agricultural sector. Iraq witnessed a new impetus towards developing agricultural projects after the end of the Iraq-Iran war. Production of wheat and cereal increased dramatically in 1988.

Agricultural production in Jordan was constant despite the adverse effects to the produce 1988/89 due to the harsh cold

weather. In Kuwait, new irrigation methods have been applied on experimental basis to prevent over consumption of water. Lebanon still has the same production rate, despite the civil war.

Libya is progressing with its great river project at a satisfactory pace. The project will provide two million cubic metres of water daily after completion. In Morocco, wheat production increased 2.4 million tons to 4 million tons in 1988.

The Saudi agricultural production growth during 1980's is considered unique. The production of Saudi wheat increased from 3,000 tons in 1975 to 2.8 million tons in 1988. The fast growth of the dairy and livestock sector in Saudi witnessed a quantum leap. These reasons contributed to Saudi Arabia being the first among Arab countries towards the growth rate of agricultural production.

In Syria, production of wheat witnessed considerable progress in 1988 paving the way for a new agricultural transformation.



Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri taking an interest in projects at the Doha summer club for boys. The minister has been touring various clubs to discuss activities with club directors.

Less Kuwaiti girls at summer clubs: Nouri

EDUCATION Minister Anwar Al Nouri has called for studying the reasons why summer clubs do not attract a large number of Kuwaiti girls. Addressing a meeting he chaired yesterday at the Kheitan Summer Club for girls, the minister queried why only a few girls joined scientific activities and the majority opt for sports and folkloric activities. He called for carrying out extensive scientific programmes to attract members of summer clubs to join science activities. He also called for supplying libraries of summer clubs with a cross-section of more good books suited to children of different ages.

Improvement
The minister asked officials of the summer clubs to suggest proposals on ways to improve work at the summer clubs and to attract more members, particularly girls. The official said that the number of members at the summer clubs does not exceed 10 per cent of the number of school boys and girls. He called for distributing a questionnaire to students during the academic year to ascertain what shortcomings they discern in the

summer clubs. He said that reasons for not joining summer clubs must be studied carefully and proper ways and methods to attract students to join summer clubs must be determined.

A number of summer club supervisors attributed the low attendance to the fact that there are no new programmes and activities offered with the exception of the computer. Several supervisors proposed trips around Kuwait and to other GCC states and the minister approved the proposal asking that air-conditioned buses be provided for such trips.

Meanwhile the director of Faiika Summer Club for Boys, Ahmad Shehab Ahmad Saleh said that programmes should be implemented to help curb the smoking among students.

Describing this "unhealthy habit" as contributing to the decadence of youth, the official called on all concerned authorities in the country represented by ministries of social affairs and labour, public health, information and education to take urgent measures to address this problem among youth.

Interviewed by a group of journalists at Faiika Summer Club, Saleh said that the rapid spread of this vice among school students runs contrary to the very core of the educational concept and called on students to respect educational and social values within school limits.

He commented that today's youth are "the future pillars of society" and should be carefully nurtured towards developing into becoming stalwart citizens to serve the progress of the country.

Summer clubs play a vital role in supervising and channeling the energies of students towards beneficial activities and programmes, the official said. He also criticised students who verbally or physically assault teachers and club supervisors. He added that vandalism of public utilities is a foreign acquisition and measures should be directed towards preventing such "irresponsible conduct."

Faiika summer clubs contain different scientific activities designed to serve beneficiaries during the morning and evening periods, Saleh said.

Scientific network for universities

BAHRAIN and Qatar universities will be connected with the scientific and technological information network that links scientific research institutions with universities in the Arab states. The deputy chairman of Bahrain University Dr Samir Qassem said that contributions of Qatari and Bahraini universities in the network will facilitate the exchange of available information at low costs, through the Gulf centre of the network at King

Abdul Aziz Al Saud City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia. An information network was established in the GCC states that links King Abdul Aziz Al Saud City with King Saud University in Riyadh, King Fahd University for Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) in Kuwait.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Sabab Al-Khira: local programme
9.30 Iftah Ya Simsim: children cultural programme
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Al Hob Wa Essabar: Arabic serial (part 12), starring:
11.15 Ezaj: local serial (part 4), starring Ghanem Al Saleh, Zainab Al Dhahi, Maryam Al Ghabban, and Dawood Hossain
12.30 Hewwar Wa Nagham: variety programme
1.00 News Summary
1.05 The World Today via Satellite
1.30 Flouna: cartoon serial
2.15 Hana Nashila Al Zaman: Arabic serial (part 5)
3.30 Bibi Folk and Calimiro: cartoon serial
4.00 Football match: Brazil vs Scotland
6.00 Laila Min Alf Laila: children programme
7.00 The World Abo Us: cultural programme
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 Haribat Minna Al Madhi: Arabic serial, starring: Majdi Wahba, Suad Naser, Wabed Saif, Ameena Rizq and Ahmad
10.45 Mahakem Billa Sojoon: Bedouin serial, starring: Muna Wasef, Rashed Assaf and Hossain Abo Hamad
12.00 News Summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Trollies: cartoon series
6.30 Big Ice: "Ice Society." A look at penguins living in the Antarctic region.
7.00 Danger Bay: "The Only Way Down is Up."
7.30 Body Matters: "Hair Today, Gone tomorrow." A look at the various aspects of hair.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Simon and Simon: "Beauty and the Deceased." A well-known model, Dianne, is being blackmailed by a colleague. The private detectives are asked to investigate. Starring: Gerald McRaney, Jameson Parker
9.30 The Best of British: "Film Fun" looks at the "funnies" made by British producers
10.00 Learning Ropes: "Three Little Words." Elaine helps a new girl who joins the school.
10.30 Movie Classics: "Santa Fe Trail." (1940). Starring: Majid Flynn, Olivia de Havilland, Van Heflin, Ronald Reagan and Raymond Massey. Typical Western with a lot of action plus an elaborate production. Duration: 110 minutes. Directed by Michael Curtiz.
11.30 News Summary: Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran; Closedown

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Space Mutiny
Al Hamra
Combat Killers
Al Salamiya
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Ghar Ghar Ki Kahani
Starring: Rishi Kapoor, Jaya Pradha
Fahad Open-Air
Ganga Tere Desh Mein
Al Fahad
Arabic film
Al Jalra
Hoodlums
Gauda
Arabic film
Al Sulalibhat
Pavio Roberto
Al Jleeb
Little Nikita
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic film

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Jahra Street
Al Omar Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kaber Street
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Rehab Pharmacy
Hawalli, Tunis Street
Salmiya and Rumailiya
Randa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street
Fahad and Ahmadi
Sada Pharmacy
Fahad, Makrah Street
New Kheitan
Al Tasamoh Pharmacy
Ebin Screen Street
Riq'ae
Al Riq'ae Pharmacy
Property of Bader Al Salem Al Ali
Jahra
The Fourth Area, Plot No. 48

Sargavedi to stage Saakshi at the IAC

RATIONALIST Isaac — scholar, free-thinker and a kind hearted human, who ultimately embraced alcoholism due to circumstantial bindings of relationships; Rosalima — a woman who, during her tender ages ate the fruit of sin, which after a few decades took mountainous appearance, engulfed her and smashed-off the crystal castle of her super ego; Sicilamma — the innocent college girl who, at the end, was shocked to learn that the young lover of hers was the illegitimate son of her own mother; Father Syric — the benevolent priest who always stood beside the needy, although the whole society turned against him and questioned his motive; Thresimma and Jainesse, the young inmates of the orphanage; Appappan — the innocent old man; Sister Paulin — whose deeds are just against the norms of the white robe she wears; Jevan — the young lover who grew up in the orphanage, but came out with flying colours in his career and Thakachan the real replica of an aristocratic family member who gives priority to prestige than the life of his own sister — these are the characters blessed together with lots of emotional dramatic scenes in Saakshi (witness), the Malayalam social play.

Written by Varughese Paul and directed by Jayan Pattathu for Sargavedi the cultural wing of Kuwait Kerala Cultural Congress, the unique attraction of this play is the

introduction of a lady — Miss Shirley John — as the co-director. In the history of more than a quarter century of the Malayalam theatrical movement in Kuwait, it is the maiden appearance of a female in the field of play direction. A born artist with abundant knowledge in movements, action and a perfect scenario, Miss Shirley bagged numerous prizes during her school-college days. Her first stage appearance in Kuwait was with KMCA's "Azhimukham", in the role of an innocent village girl, the incredible performance placed her on the top line of artists among the expatriate Malayalee community.

Another remarkable achievement of the play is the localisation of music. Lyrics written by Rajendra Babu and composed by Vimala, as well as the effect music too. Lead singers are Unnikrishnan and Lekshmi Vijayakumar. On the stage performers are of a combination of veterans and new comers. The play goes on to the stage of Indian Arts Circle. For details see What's On column.

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.34 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.30 pm
Maghreb	6.44
Isha	8.12



New arrivals

A new leisure team has now taken over the management of the Recreation Centre at the Kuwait International Hotel. Paul Woodland (right) recreation manager and Vivienne Buck (left) assistant recreation manager have been involved in the management and development of sports facilities in the United Kingdom. Paul has a degree in B.A. Sports Management from the University of Newcastle. Vivienne Buck was Sports Co-ordinator in the South West of England and has been operating ladies aerobic classes.

Family visas concurrently cancelled with sponsors

47,000 people on travel ban list

THE cancellation of the residence permit of an expatriate for any reason, will automatically result in the residence permit of his wife, children and maid (dependents) also being cancelled, according to a senior ministry official.

He also added that problems arising due to the similarity in names of passengers with those of persons banned from leaving the country has been an on-going issue for the past 30 years.

Enforcement
Adding the civil number to the names of the person banned from travelling will solve this problem and it is expected to be enforced shortly, Col Mohammed Al Subaie, Director of Exits Department at Ministry of the Interior said. The ministry is endeavouring to collect comprehensive information on all banned travellers to solve this problem, he added.

The Immigration Department took over the responsibility of overseeing the section related to banned persons at the beginning of 1988. The section refers to the departments of nationality and immigration and the Public Authority for Civil Information to collect all details of banned persons.

The department does not accept demands from relevant authorities to enforce the ban on anyone from travelling without obtaining full details about his personality — except in certain cases like murder. In these exceptional circumstances, we ban all persons having similar names. However, this is only for a temporary period (24 hours only) until the CID men complete collecting complete details about the murder suspect, he said.

Col Subaie pointed out that some persons are banned for political reasons, just as in any country in the world. However, Kuwaiti citizens are not forbidden for any reason to enter Kuwait, according to the constitution. But, Kuwait has the right to forbid any Kuwaiti or non-Kuwaiti from leaving the country if they are banned. "No one, including Ministry of the Interior has the right to forbid any person from travelling. This right is only invested in the judiciary," the official said.

Most persons are banned for commercial reasons. Several companies sell on instalments to customers who delay in paying the instalments. The companies proceed against them in court which results in these defaulters being banned.

The debt should be more than KD500 to incur a ban. He added that the judge has the right to ban anyone irrespective of the amount of the debt if he sees that the debtor might escape from the country. He also has the right to allow any debtor to leave the country even if the debt is more than KD500 if he sees that debtor has no reasons to leave the country and not return.

Ban list

Col Subaie pointed out that the number of persons in the banned list is 47,000 most of whom are non-Kuwaitis (90 per cent) while only 10 per cent are Kuwaitis. He expected that the department will remove 7,000 names from the list shortly. The department removes names of debtors who were involved in Al Manakh crisis after receiving official orders to return their passports which were confiscated which confirms that their cases are solved, he said.

He pointed out that passport employees at the border centres and airports discover many forged passports and residence permits. He added that some people forge the date of departure if

they stay out of Kuwait for more than six months. Only the number is changed while the letters are not touched. Such people are poor cheats and can not be treated as professional forgers he said.

The department has a plan to develop the buildings at the border centres and to increase the number of employees there in order to develop services for passengers. The department is installing computer terminals at these centres which are provided with all required information to speed up the work process. The department is now preparing a study to be submitted to the ministry to build an institute similar to the institute in Saudi Arabia to train passport employees. The passport employees need courses in Public Relations, English and Geography, he said.

The department is planning to cancel the filling in of the embarkation and disembarkation cards by passengers. These details will be fed into the computer by the passport employees directly, he said.

He pointed out that 33,379 Kuwaitis entered Kuwait from 1/5 to 31/5/89 compared to 136,391 non-Kuwaitis in the same period. He added that 44,685

Kuwaitis and 133,942 non-Kuwaitis left Kuwait that month. A total of 60,753 Kuwaitis and 176,481 non-Kuwaitis left Kuwait last month (June) while 39,595 Kuwaitis and 109,860 non-Kuwaitis entered during the same period.

Fees

Subaie pointed out that the Interior Ministry at present has no plans to levy departure fees on passengers who leave Kuwait from land exits. But the ministry is considering the feasibility of introducing many other fees like charges on trucks and long vehicles that enter the country. The Interior Ministry decided to carry out a project to expand the buildings at the land exits which will cost about KD30 million. The relevant authorities agreed on the project. The project is in the design stage.

Subaie pointed out that the Interior Ministry deported 3,259 persons during this year. Most of them violated the law of residence while others were released from jail and deported. He denied the existence of organised crime in Kuwait. He added that most crimes committed in Kuwait are by individuals which can be controlled by Ministry of the Interior easily.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, July 25, (KUNA): HH the Amir today received in audience acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber.

Interior talks

KUWAIT, July 25, (KUNA): Defence Minister and Acting Interior Minister Sheikh Nasser Al Ahmad today conferred with the French Interior Ministry delegation that is currently visiting Kuwait.

The delegation, grouping inspector general and the interior minister's representative and the ministry's deputy international relations chairman arrived here Sunday on an official visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by Director-General of the Installations Security and Task Forces Brig Youssef Al Mishari and the French Charge d'Affaires.

Contract signed

KUWAIT, July 25, (KUNA): Minister of Communications and Acting Minister of Public Works Abdullah Al Shahrhan today signed a contract with one of the local companies for road construction and other services in Surra area Block 2 and 5, and in Salwa area Block 9.

The construction work will take one year and will cost KD1.596 million.

Rujaib visit

KUWAIT, July 25, (KUNA): Assistant Social Affairs and Labour Undersecretary for Social Care Dr Latifa Al Rujaib left here today for Hungary on an official three-day visit at the invitation of the Hungarian culture minister.

Rujaib told KUNA, prior to her departure, that she will hold official talks during her stay in Budapest with social affairs officials on social catering in general and services to the handicapped in particular.

The official noted that Hungary is an advanced country in fields of rehabilitation and training of the handicapped and hoped that Kuwait would benefit from that experience.

Liquor charge

THE Criminal Court has sentenced a man to three and a half years in jail with hard labour for making liquor with the intention of selling.

The court heard that a traffic police patrol arrested a man driving under the influence and seized a bottle of mineral water containing a little quantity of liquor, discovered later to be local produce.

The arrested driver told interrogators that he had bought the liquor from a Thai national who sold him the bottle for KD6, and when the CID men stormed the residence of the Thai they recovered two bottles of liquor and his illegal trade equipment, which he said was given to him by a friend before he had gone on leave.

The court sentenced the other two to six months in jail with hard labour to be followed by deportation of all three suspects.

Work camp

THIRTY-NINE youth have joined the work camp organised by the Department of Youth and Childhood at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour in Jahra.

The camp director Aiyed Mohammad Al Shimmari received the new members and showed them their dormitory, handed them their camp outfit and divided them into working groups.

The camp administration briefed the members on how they should usefully exploit their time at the camp and upgrade the level of their performance.

Anti-social youth Delinquency probe proposed

By Ali Al Masoudi

"The building of the modern state is a process that must go parallel to the building of the qualified individual and to preparing him to confront the challenges of the age."

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah

THIS motto concisely outlines the starting point for the building of the young modern state. It serves to illuminate the road towards a calculated foolproof development plan, in which the pivotal element is the well-prepared individual who could meet the challenges of today, eliminate existing obstacles and not succumb to demanding tasks.

It is no secret that Kuwaiti youth are facing several problems, quite a few of which are self-created. These require earnest devotion to probe and identify the role that we could play to redress the situation.

Youth in Kuwait occasionally develop awesome anti-social patterns of conduct which change invariably from one neighbourhood to another and are characterised by whimsical enactment of dubious motives, such as smashing and setting fire to cars, a phenomenon that first appeared in Firdous but somehow spread to other areas.

Another such anti-social conduct finds expression in the unfathomable urge to vandalise public property, abuse public aesthetic aspects, uproot plants, practice graffiti, smash lamp posts and similar other acts of irresponsible behaviour.

Dangerous course

The phenomenon has transgressed the bounds where the act is directed against the object and pursued a dangerous course bordering on crime. A perfect example is the instance in which a student drew a knife on his teacher and stabbed him in the hand, which resulted in amputation of the finger. Similarly, another student hurled his shoe at the teacher to express a fit of uncontrollable frustration.

The question here is: "Where is the rub?" Is it an enactment of stubborn determination to fight the sense of responsibility by the student? Is it the result of lack of feasible and effective communication between teacher and student? Or is the problem imputable to the inability of the teacher, family or the society to understand the truth of what this student really wants?

Dr Jasssem Al Khawajah, a professor of psychology at Kuwait University, told *Seyassat* that any problem, no matter how seemingly trivial, must be well studied and probed into to uncover the underlying causative elements.

He pointed out that acts of vandalism have often been noticed to be common in densely populated areas. In other words, in residential areas where low-income citizens and flat-type housing units are prevalent.

This space limitation factor could nurse antagonistic tendencies among individuals, in contrast to the residents of low density areas, where spacious accommodations reflect largely on the psychology of the occupants.

Another factor at play in this phenomenon is the individual technique employed by fathers in the upbringing of their children. Some fathers resort to beating, scolding and torturing, while mothers pursue a pattern of negligence, characterised by lack of caring, which induce children labouring under such hard circumstances to build up tension. This, unfortunately will find vent in anti-social activities. Other factors responsible for the development of such unguided tendencies is bad company, where an individual with a troubled family life could exercise a dangerous effect on his companions and induce them to engage in destructive activities. Inspirations are derived from the most common source at hand, western movies of violence and so-called action, in which gangs of teenagers are bent on inflicting damage on public property and carrying out acts of sabotage for drawing attention.

Strangely, these revolvers are looked upon as heroes who master the art of self-assertion and intimidation, which encourages other children to indulge in copycat activities.

Awareness

Therefore, public media have of late undertaken the task of guiding youth as to how to lead a constructive life and play an important role in the national development process, while harping on the theme of public-spiritiveness.

This triggered the production of special awareness programmes intended to heighten the sense of responsibility towards public property and encourage individual contributions to the national march of building the modern state through commitment and involvement.

Schools of course, must play a vital role, in correcting the misguided behaviour of certain students, particularly in a manner where the student responsible, say for damaging a water cooler, must bear the cost of the damage he incurred if the incident was inexcusably his fault.

Obviously, the existing gap between teacher and student is largely caused by the absence of respect that is so essential to maintaining a healthy teacher-student relationship.

The nursing of long pent-up grudges and passions by students against their teachers may be the result of impractical methods employed by the teacher in his bid to control what he claims to be an unruly class through beating, slurring or publicly deriding a student who failed to come up to the teacher's expectations.

From a strictly financial point of view, children who engage in inflicting damage to others' property, such as cars, may be doing so out of the frustration caused by the limited or insufficient supply of pocket-money, and by a marked lack of parental control and interest as in how the child should use his leisure time in a fruitful and rewarding manner.



A convicted felon pictured with stolen banknotes and jewellery.

Financial crimes dealt with severely: Awadi

Co-operation with Interpol

By Nasser Al Tameem

DIRECTOR of the Anti-Financial Crimes Department at the Criminal Investigation Department, Lt Col Abdul Hameed Al Awadi said that the CID is firmly co-ordinating and co-operating with Interpol. He said that this co-operation encompasses cases of Kuwaiti citizens who are victims of cheats, stolen passports, attempts to bring stolen cars to Kuwait, chasing international cheats and fighting forging of currency. In this respect, Awadi said that it is absolutely difficult to forge the Kuwaiti dinar adding that his department has never caught any such cases.

Referring to the "liquidation" problem, involving buying commodities in instalment and then reselling it for cash, Awadi said that this is a new phenomenon in Kuwait and it has no immediate solution. The department, however has warned offices dealing in cars to be cautious towards this important issue. He said that bribery is one of the most difficult crimes to detect, but nevertheless a number of citizens as well as expatriates have been apprehended.

About the duties of the Anti-Financial Crimes Department (set up in 1983) Awadi said that it deals with all financial crimes in

co-operation with the detective departments in the country. He added that the department also investigates the establishment of some companies which are set up only to trade in residence permits.

He said that the department informs the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Immigration Department to put such companies on the black list. Additionally, the department also chases cases of forgery, drugs, liquor and others. It also apprehends residence and labour law violators. The department has two main sections, one for combating theft while the other for combating crimes for cheating.

Co-operation

About co-operation with Interpol, Awadi said that the CID in Kuwait has co-operated with Interpol in different countries to apprehend many thieves. He said that a number of stolen Kuwaiti passports in foreign countries have been recovered with the co-operation of Interpol. He said that recently the department arrested an American cheat who has a long list of cases against him. He said that we got information that the man was in Kuwait. After finding that he was staying in a five

star hotel, we also noticed that he was holding false deals with Kuwaiti businessmen. Then we arrested him and ordered him to leave Kuwait and informed Washington his onward location of disembarkation.

Counterfeit

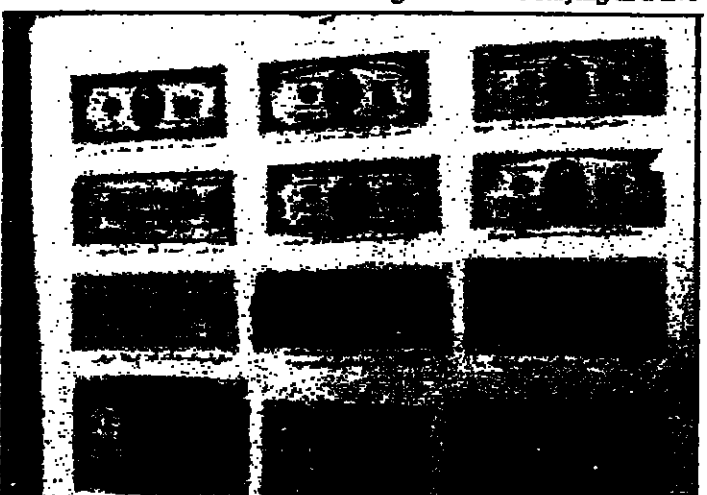
He said that no major money counterfeit operation was ever caught in Kuwait and no bank notes printing press was ever found in the country. He said that the largest counterfeit money operation ever to be discovered in Kuwait amounted to only \$2000. On robberies, Awadi said that its number increases during the summer and is carried out mostly by minors. He said that because of the schools summer vacation, minors find themselves with plenty of leisure time and some of them indulge in robberies. Crimes common to Kuwait are robberies committed at commercial shops, cars, branches of co-operative societies and vandalism. He said that some people leave valuable items like jewellery inside their houses and thus some of the robberies take place at some deserted homes during summer.

He said issuing dud cheques, whatever the value might be, is a crime punishable by law.

In case, people who issue the cheque agree to pay the amount they will be released but after recording a case against them.

Warning

Awadi warned the public from dealing with unfounded foreign companies who ask people to pay an amount of money and promise to give them much more after only a few months. When the time comes, they get nothing. He said that in one case, a Kuwaiti citizen paid KD6,000 to one of these companies and in the end got nothing. Concerning money embezzlement he said that the department six years ago arrested an Arab who got over KD500,000 from his countrymen to transfer it to their relatives but duped them. He was arrested and sentenced to 75 years imprisonment.



Counterfeit money found in Kuwait.

GOIC study

Industrial protection guidelines advocated

THE protectionist policy applied to national GCC industries should not lead to creating non-economic industries that add to sick industries in the GCC states, according to a study by the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy. The study said that with this scenario, national industries will be a burden on economic development.

The study prepared on the custom protection policy for national industries of GCC states, however said that this policy is needed and is very necessary under the prevailing conditions in the GCC states. It added that this policy is basically meant to provide an opportunity to the national industries and its products to prove itself and equally compete with imported products from developed nations. But it warned that this policy must not be applied rigidly. Restrictions and regulations must govern the implementation of custom protection policy. These regulations must be related to the nature of the products needed to be protected and quality, quantity and prices of these products in order to avoid this policy creating a totally dependent and crippled industry that hinders economic development.

Standards

The study said that the first step in this field must be to determine a number of standards and general policies which should guide the decision of granting protection to new industries or renewing old ones. It said that such standard goals should be worked out within the frame of the strategic goals of industrial development in the region. It emphasised that the standards and policies for granting protection must take into account whether the protected industry can in the future stand on its feet without the help of protection. If it cannot do that, then it is better not to grant protection rights from the very beginning.

The study said that the nature

of the product must be an indication for granting protection. It must be noted that protection should be granted to necessary products rather than luxury items. In addition, priority in protection must be given to productive ventures and industries producing intermediate products in order to expand the industrial base, strengthen relations between existing industries and achieve a balance in the GCC industrial structure. The study called for paying special attention to the price factor of the national products. High prices of industrial products would result in adverse effects on the industry and would harm any future export policy.

The organisation called in its study to apply special conditions concerning the quality of industrial products that apply for protection. This will preserve the consumers interests and would encourage national industries to improve the quality of its products. It proposed that GCC industries applying for protection must be forced to commit to GCC unified standards and specifications scale if present or the local specifications in each country. This would mean, the study stressed, not to grant protection to any industry, until its products are marketed in local markets and after proving it complies with quality specifications.

The study said that the size of production in relation to the market requirements from the products, must also be considered while granting protection. It proposed that no industry should be granted protection until it covers between 40-50 per cent of the local market consumption and after pledging it would increase the production when they demand renewal. After taking all the previous steps, the study proposed that measures should be taken to adopt unified GCC custom tariffs to be imposed on the protected industries.

Visa selling days are now numbered

FOR the past few years the concept of "free-visa" has been the source of lucrative albeit illegal, income for a section of the population in Bahrain comprising of both nationals and expatriates alike. Officially this modus operandi, which is generally perceived by some people as access to quick easy money within a short time, is both illegal and banned. However, there is no denying, including from official government sources, that the problem exists. In recent years buying and selling of free-visas on a large scale have created an open market. In commercial terms the mode of operation is just like any other kind of business, except that transactions are conducted secretly by both parties concerned.

Demand

The mid-seventies was the peak of the "free-visa" system when there existed a heavy demand for expatriate workforce, particularly in the construction sector. Capitalising on the situation local employers could apply for a liberal number of foreign workers, more than what was required. The excess number of visas were subsequently sold of the open-market to all sorts of parties at exorbitant amounts. Ten years ago the price of a free-visa was worth anything from BD200 to BD300 depending on the nature of employment and applicant concerned.

Today, with the emphasis on "Bahrainisation" and reduction of expatriate labour particularly in the private sector, there has been increasing demand for the free-visa. Invariably the market price for the NOC for expatriate employment has shot up considerably, ranging between a minimum of BD400 to a maximum of BD600. Surprisingly there seems to be people who are both willing and able to pay up.

Last resort

The expatriates who buy the "free-visa" look upon this act as a last desperate resort. Those who lose their jobs with their original sponsors or employers resort to this system to remain in the island, after paying a "fee" for the "release letter". Others leave the country and return on the "free-visa".

Basically the system works thus. A visa or NOC for an expatriate is only granted to a national who owns or operates a commercial establishment officially registered with a CR (commercial registration) number of the Commerce Ministry. The applicant proves that he requires the services of X number of overseas workers. He then submits the names of expatriates, already in this list who have "purchased" the visa beforehand at huge prices, to the relevant authorities. It usually takes about two weeks for the visa application to be processed and issued. In this way the seller enjoys a lucrative income at the expense of often poor expatriates who mainly fall in the low-income bracket. Somehow the buyer gets the required sum to pay for this most sought after of official documents.

Clampdown

In recent times a fair number of expatriates, the bulk of whom are free-visa holders themselves, have been actively engaged in the unethical and illegal business. These tourists in turn buy visas from nationals and sell them to follow expatriates at even more exorbitant prices. The profit margin can be anything between BD50 to BD200.

Four years, hard labour for stabbing housewife

THE Assize Court sentenced a citizen to four years imprisonment with hard labour for stabbing a housewife with a knife and causing her serious chest injuries.

However, the court ruled against the prosecution's demand that the accused be tried on the charge of pre-meditated murder.

The housewife while being questioned by the General Prosecution said that she was romantically involved with the accused which began after she was divorced from her husband.

Investigations had revealed that the victim

and the accused were partners of a commercial shop and that the accused regularly visited her at her flat because he was her sponsor and intended to marry her.

The victim refused the marriage offer as the accused was already married and had children, in addition to the fact that she was divorced by her former husband on the grounds that she was involved with the accused. The victim wanted to stay above suspicion by not marrying which resulted in heated arguments between the accused and the victim.

At the time of the incident, the accused followed the victim to her flat and started arguing with her when he discovered that relatives were staying with her. The victim then reacted negatively and refused to answer, whereupon the accused went to the kitchen and came back with a knife and stabbed the victim in the chest.

The accused, however, told the court that they had disputes over business so he ended the partnership and left the country for some time.

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Mohammad Islam Abdul Aziz and
Mohammad Ekram Abdul Aziz
on the sad demise of their

MOTHER

May his soul rest in peace

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FAME always brings loneliness, success is as ice-cold as the North Pole — Vicki Baum, Austrian-born writer (1886-1960).

Thatcher aims for better party image

Biggest shake-up in 30 years

PRIME Minister Margaret Thatcher's cabinet reshuffle, Britain's biggest government shake-up for nearly 30 years, gives the ruling Conservative a new look aimed at restoring political momentum after economic and European election setbacks.

New party chairman Kenneth Baker, charged with winning a record fourth consecutive term in office, said yesterday's moves would "improve the cutting edge of government."

With changes still being rung through the lower echelons of Whitehall today, party members expressed surprise at the scale of the Cabinet upheaval.

But they were confident it gave them a stronger hand to tackle the problems facing the government after one of its worst political patches since Thatcher gained power 10 years ago.

Those difficulties — splits over the European Economic Community, rising inflation and interest rates, recurrent industrial unrest, unpopular health service reforms and water sell-off plans — contributed to a slide in opinion polls and a rebuff for the Conservatives in last month's European elections.

It was their first national poll defeat since Thatcher became party leader in 1975. The next general election must be called by mid-1992.

Moving Baker, 54, from education to head Conservative party general office with cabinet rank was widely forecast and expected to be the ace card in the reshuffle.

It gives the party a well-known leader and gives Baker, who is regarded as having a good television image, a base from which to challenge for the succession to Thatcher's throne.

But it was trumped by Thatcher's dramatic decision to bring on the younger talent she has decreed the party hierarchy needs.

The rise of John Major from the number two job at the Treasury to Foreign Secretary, one of the three great offices of state, surprised everyone, including himself and the man he replaced, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Respected Major, 46, is one of the government's most able but least known personalities and his rise clearly anoints him as Thatcher's personal choice as her apparent.

Taking up his new job, Major put Europe and East-West relations on top of the foreign agenda facing Britain.

With no previous foreign affairs experience, it remains to be seen whether he will toe the Thatcher line more than Howe on European issues, such as her opposition to full membership of the European monetary system.

The domestic trump card Thatcher played was the appointment of 45-year-old Christopher Patten as Environment Secretary to take over from the controversial Nicholas Ridley.

Ridley has been under attack over his handling of such sensitive issues as the sale of public water enterprises, environment conservation and the introduction of a poll tax to replace property taxes, which comes under environment's local government responsibilities.

Thatcher is only a recent convert to environmental causes and was taken aback by the success in the European elections of Britain's tiny Green party, which won 15 per cent of the vote.

The reshuffle was widely seen by political analysts as reflecting Thatcher's belief that her policies were right but her government was failing to put them across.

But the generally pro-government Daily Telegraph said that some of her proposed measures were unpopular because they were wrong. It warned: "A change of ministers is alone no substitute for a sense of priorities and sound policies, sensibly pursued."

The politically non-aligned Independent welcomed Patten's appointment but attacked Major's move as too far, too fast and called several ministers second-rate. (Reuters London)

PRESS REVIEW

Al Rai Al Aam: A local daily warned that "We are facing a new stage of a political game, where actions are staged behind curtains and under the title of the (Palestinian) intifada."

In its front page editorial, daily *Al Rai Al Aam* said that the game has become crystal clear through a series of contradictory statements as Palestinians and Israeli sources affirmed that a meeting was conducted between Yitzhak Shamir and two PLO representatives.

"Discreet Palestinian sources said that Shamir was serious and aims at finding a Palestinian partner to his initiative," the daily said.

The paper added that according to the Israeli side, Israeli prime minister's office denied such a meeting stressing that Shamir's stance is steady and has not changed.

The daily affirmed that it is limpid that there are forces trying to penetrate the Palestinian front and trying to occupy the Palestinian leadership inside and outside the occupied territories by issuing contradictory statements, while Israel is watching the responses and reactions of its maneuvers and tactics.

"If the Palestinian front is rifted Shamir is the one to benefit and have a golden chance to quell the intifada, that is what the US wants," *Al Rai Al Aam* pointed out.

Therefore, the paper warned that such manoeuvres aim at "disrupting the Palestinian front and slowing down the political and diplomatic search that is being conducted by the PLO to reveal the Israeli false claim for peace."

Israel and the US are trying and working on aborting the Palestinian intifada, the paper affirmed.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1605 — French Protestants hold assembly at Chatelherault in defiance of King Henry IV.
- 1757 — French under D'Estrees defeat British under Cumberland at Hastenback in eastern Germany.
- 1821 — Turkey and Russia sever relations after Turkey refuses to protect Christian subjects.
- 1891 — France annexes South Sea island of Tahiti.
- 1926 — Philippine legislature calls for plebiscite on independence, but it is vetoed by US governor-general.
- 1942 — British Air Force stages heavy raid on Hamburg in Germany World War II.
- 1945 — Britain, United States and China demand Japan's unconditional surrender as terms for peace in World War II.
- 1952 — Egypt's King Farouk abdicates in favour of infant son, Fuad.
- 1953 — Fidel Castro begins revolt in Cuba, attacking Army barracks at Santiago.
- 1956 — Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalizes Suez Canal, and Britain, France and United States announce financial retaliations.
- 1963 — Earthquake shakes Skopje, Yugoslavia, taking more than 1,000 lives.
- 1974 — Constantine Caramanlis, new Greek premier, forms civilian cabinet after seven years of military rule in Greece.
- 1984 — Kuwait's defence minister says Amir of Kuwait has ordered air force to shoot on sight any intruder warplanes that violate nation's air space.
- 1988 — Cuba's President Fidel Castro addresses rally to mark 35th anniversary of start of his revolutionary fight for power.



The strikers are happy with glasnost which permits them to defy the authorities and government but don't think much of perestroika because it has done nothing to improve their living conditions.

US-Soviet relations mellowing

Gratitude for glasnost

FOR American and Soviet officials to get to know each other no doubt helps mutual understanding and creates an atmosphere in which it is easier to find answers to problems that have remained unresolved for many years. But there are still huge obstacles to overcome to make both sides feel militarily secure.

When Marshal Sergei F. Akhromeyev appeared as a witness before the House Armed Services Committee last week, he mesmerised everybody and not only because of the many rows of decorations that glistened on his uniform, but because he was a man who seemed utterly secure, and in command of substance and who knew exactly what he wanted the committee to know. It was an impressive performance.

Perhaps the main point he wanted to make — apart from saying that he personally now believes that the United States had no intention of attacking the Soviet Union — was that more far-reaching arms cut would not be possible without the United States reducing its aircraft carrier task force.

There is no doubt, though, that the United States will continue to reject this demand, as it has in the past. The Soviets have reasons to make such demands because aircraft carriers are the only major weapons in which the United States has a decisive advantage over the Soviet Union. However, the Americans argue, they have widespread global interests to defend whether in the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Indian Ocean or the Mediterranean, and therefore must insist on keeping a large Navy. It is good to know how the Soviets see the situation, knowledgeably presented by their chief military expert, but it still does not mean that his testimony will change American policy.

In the past the Soviets were sticklers for

diplomatic etiquette. They would have wanted to know well in advance of a visit by one of their VIPs through the State Department whether he would be met at the entrance and by whom. But in the marshal's case, when he went to see high official in the State Department, the appointment was arranged within 24 hours and over the telephone. Nobody asked whether he would be met at the entrance and by whom.

The marshal proved altogether informal in style and manner and not without a sense of humour. He joked about the polite treatment he received from the members of the House Armed Services Committee and he admitted that he had felt a little uncomfortable and nervous at the start in a role he had never been asked before to play.

He must also have felt relieved when not even in private conversation he was asked about his assessment of the troubles Gorbachev is currently facing on the domestic front. These troubles are obviously getting worse and many Sovietologists are getting more cautious in assessing the Soviet leader's durability since for the first time conservatives can demand that Gorbachev accede to a deputy to him being named. It is a demand raised by conservatives in the Central Committee who up to now have remained subdued and silent. It seems to be the opening move by the internal opposition aimed at creating an alternative to Gorbachev's up to now unchallenged leadership. He has been following a saying that as long as there is no alternative there is no problem. Quite obviously, there is a growing number of those who want to curtail his independence and who want to advance their own political interests.

It was Yegor Ligachev, Gorbachev's most dan-

gerous opponent, who raised the issue of a deputy, a position he himself aspires to. He sees himself in the role of the defender of the Communist Party whose stature and influence, he believes, has been seriously hurt by glasnost, the freedom to criticise, which, he argued in the party Central Committee meeting, is "blackening everything that is dear to the Soviet people." The strikers are happy with glasnost which permits them to defy the authorities and the government, but they don't think much of perestroika because it has not done anything as yet to improve their living conditions.

Can Gorbachev turn the miners and steel workers' strike to his advantage by saying that the demonstrations only emphasise the need for perestroika and the removal of the old guard which is preventing its success? Or is he helping to unite the still entrenched conservatives against himself?

Gorbachev is clearly proceeding on a very narrow path and approaching a dangerous threshold. However, he has little choice but to continue with the policies he has been advocating. He has unleashed forces he now has difficulty controlling since most of his material promises, especially an improvement in the living standards of the average Soviet citizen, have remained unfulfilled. Even his own Prime Minister, Nikolai I. Ryzhkov has publicly complained that the "de-ideologization of society" Gorbachev has been fostering, has led to a disbelief in the communist creed. It was an obvious act of desperation when he decided to spend billion of roubles on importing consumer goods to fill the empty shelves in the shops. It is an act of desperation because it is money spent on calming public discontent not money whose investment will bring economic improvements.

Intifada a war of attrition

Cat-and-mouse clashes replace mass protests

FROM an explosion of anger that brought tens of thousands onto the streets of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestinian uprising has become a weary war of attrition against Israeli occupation.

Mass street protests have all but vanished, giving way to cat-and-mouse clashes between masked Palestinian activists, armed with stones, petrol bombs and knives, and Israeli troops, often resorting to unconventional tactics of their own.

On both sides extremists have come out of the woodwork.

The "white intifada" envisioned by Palestinian intellectuals was never in reality totally bloodless.



A Palestinian youth holds up stones as he stands on a main East Jerusalem street in front of burning tyres. The police used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannon to break up disturbances.

It is increasingly tinged with red as lone Arab desperados kill a growing number of Jews. The use of firearms by Palestinians is on the rise.

At least 566 Arabs and 39 Jews have died in the unrest that began in December 1987.

Palestinians have turned their violence more and more against suspected traitors in their midst, killing nearly 70 Arabs accused of collaborating with Israeli secret police.

In some recent weeks Arab militants have killed almost as many Palestinians as have Israel's soldiers, prompting the underground leaders of the uprising in their latest leaflet to warn against "executions" running out of the PLO's control.

Older Palestinians are haunted by the spectre of their unsuccessful 1936-39 revolt against Zionist settlement under British mandatory rule, which collapsed into internecine strife.

On the Israeli side, militant Jewish settlers have become increasingly involved in vigilante attacks on Palestinians, shooting up Arab villages to avenge stonings.

Violence has spilled across the "green line" from the occupied territories into Israel.

Israeli civilians have killed two Palestinians and wounded dozens by stoning their cars inside the Jewish state to avenge the kidnapping of Israeli soldiers and other Arab attacks.

The outbursts of Jewish violence reflect frustration at the government's apparent inability to find a military solution to the revolt, possibly also at Israel's international isolation.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says the level of violence in the West Bank and Gaza has declined, showing the Palestinians are psychologically weary.

Uprising leaders acknowledge that mass arrests, economic hardship and collective punishments have sapped Palestinian morale.

Last year, when Jordan severed ties with the West Bank and the PLO's parliament-in-exile declared a Palestinian state, many local Arabs seemed to believe self-determination was just around the corner.

"People now realise it is going to be a long haul but no one is giving up," says Mahdi Abdul Hadi, head of an east Jerusalem foreign policy think-tank. "For independence everyone is prepared to give everything — his house, his money, his life."

The intifada has become institutionalised in daily life. Strike forces of young activists enforce a boycott of Israeli goods, collect revolutionary taxation and inflict "popular justice" on suspected collaborators.

Most of the 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories appear to regard the young militants with pride as the vanguard of their struggle.

Cypriots unwilling to forget

ON the dun-coloured slopes of the Kyrenia mountains overlooking Cyprus' divided capital, Turkish Cypriots have carved a huge Islamic crescent and fashioned a Turkish Cypriot flag from stones.

They're a constant taunt to the Christian Greek Cypriots, reminding them that one-third of the east Mediterranean island remains occupied by the Muslim Turks 15 years after they invaded on July 20, 1974.

Not that most Greek Cypriots want to forget or let any one else do so. Travellers leaving from Larnaca airport on the south coast pass roadside posters reading: "Don't forget the Turkish invasion."

Greek Cypriots believe they hold the moral high ground and that keeping the division of Cyprus prominent in the international arena will enable them to end the occupation.

The Kyrenia range, which looms over the island's central plain, is in the territory that the Turkish Cypriots declared a breakaway republic in 1983.

The capital itself is split by the so-called green line, a 112-mile-long (116-kilometre) buffer zone that snakes across the island. It is patrolled by 2,300 United Nations peacekeeping troops who have been in Cyprus since sectarian fighting erupted in 1964.

Along the line, soldiers of the rival communities' forces face each other from sandbagged pillboxes in rural alleys and hilltop bunkers, sometimes only yards (metres) apart.

On the anniversary of the invasion last Thursday (July 20), 1,000 Greek Cypriot women, many of them refugees from the north, went through the buffer zone to occupy a war-torn, weed-encrusted school and church. They demanded the right to return to their homes.

Turkish Cypriot riot police stormed the roofless buildings, beating the women with clubs. One hundred women were arrested and put on trial, a move that infuriated the Greek Cypriots.

The incident aroused simmering sectarian passions and threatened to wreck UN-sponsored talks on reunifying the island in a bizonal federation.

The current round of negotiations between President George Vassiliou, the Greek Cypriot leader, and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş have dragged on for 10 months with little visible sign of progress, despite initial hopes of a breakthrough.

Denktash wants complete political equality — even though the 120,000-strong Turkish Cypriots form only 17 per cent of the population — with the north's Muslim identity intact.

The Greek Cypriots want a federal framework, including permission to return for the 200,000 of them who fled the north, a move that would swamp the Turkish Cypriots.

Denktash, president of the Turkish Cypriot state, Saturday cast doubts on a federation and stressed: "The Greek Cypriot leadership did not contribute to peace by pushing the women toward our border."

The bottom line is that after the sectarian atrocities of the past, the Turkish Cypriots feel secure with their own state, even if it is only recognised by Turkey and remains totally dependent on Ankara economically and militarily.

Denktash noted in a broadcast on Radio Bayrak, the breakaway state's radio: "The Greeks continue to have claims on the north. But the Turks ... do not intend to be divided again."

If 1974 brought security to the Turkish Cypriots, it traumatised the Greek Cypriots.

More than 2,000 Greek Cypriots were killed. Another 1,600 are missing, still unaccounted for today.

Finding one-third of their number refugees in their own land, even if many have successfully rebuilt their lives and businesses, remains an inflammatory political issue, as the women's protest showed.

The Turkish Army lost 2,000 dead and the Turkish Cypriots 900 in 1974. Another 700 remain missing — 40,000 moved north.

There are 30,000 Turkish regulars with tanks and missiles in the north. To the Greek Cypriots, that's an intolerable violation of Cyprus' internationally recognised sovereignty.

Quote me

"It was a marvellous moment kneeling there and getting tapped on each shoulder. I love all the ceremony. I think they rather like to leave awarding honours until you get to a certain age." — Rex Harrison, UK actor who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, said during the ceremony.

"We want another shot at the East." — Marynell Meadows, North's coach from Florida State, whose team lost to the East in the round robin portion of the US Olympic festival's basketball competition.

"We... have unitedly constituted a Tamil National Council today to achieve the ideals and aspirations of the Tamil-speaking people to establish and exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and set up a state in the Tamil homeland that shall be fully responsible for Tamil-speaking people." — A group of Sri Lankan organisations said in a news conference.

"They will be reviewing the manufacturing history and the manufacturing process." — Robert Macintosh, an investigator for the United Airline's DC-10, which was crash landed at Sioux City.

"Our approaches to the premiership and to the government are different. The General supports to concept of grand coalition, and from the point of view of the President he is right, but we as the opposition are also right. It is difficult to reconcile these two arguments." — Lech Walesa said after he rejected a proposal by President Jaruzelski for Solidarity to join a "grand coalition" in a new Polish government.

"We are forced to endure hours of political study every day, telling us that the soldiers killing our classmates was a glorious victory. Sarcasm is our only means of dissent." — One Chinese student said as they gathered on the campus of Beijing University.

"It's like a car that reaches the edge of an abyss and cannot continue its journey." — Prime Minister Hun Sen said after the Cambodia peace talks in France.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Decline in investment likely to damage UK prospects

Business confidence plunges to 7-year low

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): British business confidence has plunged to a seven-year low because of high interest rates the government is using to brake inflation, employers' leaders said today.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) warned of a decline in investment which could damage Britain's prospects for competing in the European Economic Community's planned single market after 1992 unless interest rates were cut soon from 14 per cent.

CBI spokesman David Wrigglesworth said: "We have made progress in recent years, closing the gap with the investment levels of our continental rivals. There is now a risk that we shall fall back again."

The gloomy forecast, contained in the CBI's survey of quarterly trends, was issued on the eve of balance of payments figures which are expected to show that Britain's trade deficit widened in June.

Economic analysts said the overall current account deficit was expected to grow from £1.32 billion (\$2.14 billion) in May to about £1.6 billion (\$2.6 billion).

Although an increase of this size was not expected to hit the pound sterling, it would be an indication that the economy has not yet started to improve, as the government believes.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson has almost doubled bank base interest rates

from 7.5 per cent to 14 per cent between June 1988 and May this year in an effort to close a record trade gap and claw back inflation, which has risen to an annual rate of 8.3 per cent from 4.6 a year ago.

Despite the CBI's demand for a cut in base rates, some economists believe Lawson may be forced to raise them another percentage point in order to meet his stated priority of reducing inflation as soon as possible.

Lawson's hopes that the inflation rate would peak at 8.3 per cent and start to fall have been hit by a rash of pace-setting industrial pay awards of 10 per cent and more.

These are likely to ensure that interest rates remain at least at

their present level for longer than manufacturers wish.

The CBI survey was carried out in June and early July among 1,336 firms responsible for half of Britain's manufacturing exports. It showed business confidence at its lowest since October 1982 when the country was in a deep recession.

Some 31 per cent of firms were less optimistic about business prospects than they were four months ago and only 12 per cent were less pessimistic.

Although some companies were more optimistic about export growth for the next year, there was a decline in the number planning capital spending on plant machinery, it said.



Nigel Lawson

Scandal rocks financial world

Bank chief, 3 directors quit

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): The chairman and three directors of Britain's biggest bank, National Westminster Bank PLC, resigned today, the latest casualties in a scandal which has rocked London's financial world.

The bank said chairman Lord Boardman and the three directors, Charles Green, Terry Green and John Plastow, had quit after a government report accused a Natwest subsidiary of misleading the stock market in the wake of the successful takeover in 1987 of Manpower Inc of the United States by British employment agency Blue Arrow PLC.

All three directors were criticised in the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) report over Natwest's failure to ensure its securities subsidiary complied with the law.

A Natwest statement said Boardman, 70, who was not blamed in the DTI document, resigned in support of his colleagues and because he felt ultimately responsible.

"Lord Boardman felt he could not accept the resignations of these three loyal colleagues of great integrity and remain," the statement said. "Although there were no criticisms of him in the report...there were serious failings within a part of the group for which he must accept ultimate responsibility."

The case, which is under investigation by the police, is threatening to become London's biggest financial scandal since senior executives of Guinness PLC were charged in connection with the alleged creation of a false market in the company's share during Guinness's \$4.2 billion takeover of drinks group Argyll PLC in 1986.

Last week's DTI report alleged Natwest subsidiary County Natwest Securities Ltd misled the stockmarket after it underwrote an unsuccessful rights issue to fund Blue Arrow's \$1.3-billion takeover of Manpower.

The report said County Natwest was left with a 13.4-per cent Blue Arrow stake but failed to disclose it, as required by law. Share analysts said this could be interpreted as a bid to support the share price and mask the issue's failure.

Natwest's board met in emergency session on Sunday to discuss the affair amid mounting public and media concern about the ability of the City of London financial community to manage its own affairs, and calls for those responsible to step down.

The resignation of Boardman, Natwest chairman since 1983, was a surprise move apparently without precedent for a major British bank. He had told a news conference last week there was no need for him to "fall on his sword."

Last February, Jonathan Cohen, County Natwest's chief executive, and its chairman, Charles Villiers, resigned after the parent bank learned of the events surrounding the takeover.

Informing the Bank of England of the resignations, Boardman rejected some of the government report's findings on the three directors and said they had not been given a chance to challenge the evidence against them.

Several other senior Natwest figures at the time of the affair have quit city posts in the last few days.

On Monday, Nick Wells, a former corporate finance director at County Natwest who was cited in the DTI report for his involvement in the Blue Arrow rights issue scandal, resigned as a corporate finance director of London broker Barclays De Zoete Wedd. Wells, 35, had joined BZW last November after his resignation from County Natwest.

"We are sad that the Blue Arrow report has made this decision inevitable," BZW said in a statement on Monday.

Economy may be slowing

Dollar drops

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): The dollar ended a share weaker in Europe today after US data hinted that American economic growth was slowing and interest rates could be eased further.

But dealers said trade was mostly quiet and without clear direction in the absence of fundamental market-moving factors.

"Foreign-exchange dealers make their money on arbitrage (exploiting price differences between currencies), but if there are no currency fluctuations, there can be no arbitrage," said one dealer at a British bank in Frankfurt.

Dealers had been waiting for US figures on durable goods orders for June to inject new life into the market, but news that they rose only 0.3 per cent after a revised 4.4 per cent fall in May had little impact.

Economists had predicted a 1.4 per cent gain in June orders for long-lasting manufactured goods ranging from pocket knives to wide-bodied airliners.

Durable goods orders are considered a leading indicator of the health of manufacturing industries but are often volatile from month to month.

Dealers said the weaker than expected rise could give the US Central Bank, the Federal Reserve, the chance to ease interest rates which would make dollar interest-bearing investments less attractive.

The dollar dipped after the figures but then climbed back to close in London at 1.8950 West German marks and 142.45 Japanese yen after ending Monday at 1.9093 and 143.20.

In stock markets, London shares firmed after early gains on Wall Street but investors remained cautious ahead of British balance of payments figures due out tomorrow.

Dealers said the market was already discounting a slight widening in the June current account to £1.6 billion (\$2.6 billion) from £1.32 billion (\$2.15 billion) in May.

But one dealer noted: "The figures are just too volatile to take a position on."

Bargain-hunting on Wall Street and interest in a sprinkling of takeover-related stocks lifted US share prices to stand 18.02 points higher at 2,603 on the Dow Jones industrial average by noon in New York.

Gold bullion closed marginally lower in London at \$371.75 an ounce after 372.25 on Monday.

Import quotas extended

Steel industry enjoying record profits

WASHINGTON, July 25, (Reuters): President George Bush has recommended to Congress an extension of voluntary quotas on steel imports for two-and-a-half more years. US Trade Representative Carla Hills said today.

Hills said at the same time the United States would seek an international consensus to remove world-wide unfair trade practices.

Bush pledged during his election campaign last year to seek an extension of the five-year programme of voluntary restraints that has helped American producers fight back against foreign competitors.

But aides, the steel industry and US steel users are torn over how long the extension should be for.

Hills, announcing the new programme, said in a statement that since the current quotas on imports from 29 countries were introduced in 1984, the US industry had become more efficient and competitive with the shield against cheap foreign steel.

The quotas on steel imports, including shipments from the 12 members of the European Economic Community, Japan and South Korea, were imposed to shield the US industry from cheap foreign steel while it modernised operations.

The programme, started in 1984 when cheap foreign steel was causing havoc in the US industry, expires on Sept 30.

The European Economic Community nations, Japan and Mexico were among 29 countries who voluntarily agreed to limit exports to the American market.

The steel industry says it needs five more years of protection if it is to fully modernise production and compete with foreign mills. Others say the industry is enjoying record profits, imports are falling and it is time to back free trade.

Economy continues to expand steadily

TOKYO, July 25, (UPI): Paced by brisk personal spending and corporate investment, Japan's economy was continuing to expand steadily, and is expected to grow in July for the 32nd straight month, the Economic Planning Agency reported today.

The agency's monthly report summarising the current economic trends said personal spending remains strong although household expenditures suffered a 2.9 per cent decline in May.

The report said the decline in household expenditures was in reaction to a spending spree ahead of the introduction of Japan's first 3 per cent sales tax in April.

Agency officials said sales at department stores in May grew 5.0 per cent over a year ago in turnaround of a 3.7 per cent fall in April while housing investment remained at a high level with housing starts in May registering a seasonally-adjusted 3.2 per cent growth following a 2.3 per cent fall in April.

The officials said wholesale and consumer prices remained stable despite a rise in prices of imported goods owing to the recent decline in the value of the Japanese yen against the US dollar.

The agency report said wholesale prices in June rose 3.7 per cent over the preceding month and 0.7 per cent over a year ago while consumer prices were up 3.4 per cent over the previous month but were down 0.1 per cent from a year ago.

The officials said inflationary effects of the new sales tax have faded away.

KD deposit rates steady

KUWAIT, July 25, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates were mostly steady as the market awaited the results of a 100 million dinar (335 million) treasury bill issue tomorrow.

Salary payments continued to flow in for a second day, but rates were largely unaffected.

Dealers said the market was anticipating a high yield on the treasury bills, cancelling out any lower rates resulting from salaries.

They added that travellers heading overseas on summer holiday had already withdrawn a good portion of total salaries, which also dampened their effect on the market.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, July 25, (Reuters): The share market closed lower in mixed trading ahead of tomorrow's release of June quarter consumer price index figures. The All Ordinaries index was down 1.1 at 1606.5.

TOKYO: Share prices soared to a record close in heavy trade for the first time in eight weeks after a partial purge of political jitters. The Nikkei rose 445.57 to 34,538.90.

HONG KONG: Stocks ended higher as local retail buyers led the market's direction. The Hang Seng index closed 34.48 up at 2,517.02.

BOMBAY: Share prices closed mixed in thin trading after stock exchange authorities raised margins on the sale of 14 leading scrips to 20 per cent from 12.5 per cent, brokers said.

LONDON: Shares moved higher in late afternoon trading as Wall Street made modest early gains. By 1446 GMT the FTSE index was 10.3 at 2,269.4.

Oil prices take a tumble

Catastrophic fall ruled out

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): Crude oil prices have dropped sharply in the past week because of signs of ample OPEC and North Sea supplies and slacker than expected demand for petrol.

But a fall on Monday of some 75 cents a barrel in New York futures did not seem to surprise or alarm the oil industry.

"The crude side has been weak for some time and I am surprised prices held up as long as they did," an executive with one Western multinational said today.

"I don't think there will be a catastrophic fall. There is another OPEC meeting in September and that will concentrate minds wonderfully," he added.

The average world crude oil spot price, according to a daily index produced by Britain's National Westminster Bank, is now \$16.35 a barrel, down from \$17 a week ago.

An industry consensus seems to be that prices might drop by late August to \$15 or even 14 a barrel. But at that point a floor might be put under the market as it looks ahead to a Sept 22 meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries which might act to remedy any supply/demand imbalance.

OPEC secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia said today he thought current prices would hold "or at least will not drop too



Subroto

far" in the July-September quarter. He noted this was traditionally a weak period on crude oil markets.

Western oil firms would not be too upset if prices slide a bit,

because a weaker petrol market in the United States and Europe has forced pump prices down and cut their profit margins.

Crude, some analysts say, has been unrealistically high.

Average prices rose from around \$10 a barrel during a glut last autumn to \$15 or so early this year when OPEC set new supply quotas which most of the 13 members obeyed.

Prices then shot above \$20 in April when an explosion on a North Sea platform stopped a quarter of British supply.

British output was also depressed by routine maintenance on North Sea installations and strikes by offshore workers.

The strikes have now halted and the Royal Bank of Scotland which tracks North Sea activities says output will soon rebound to two million barrels per day (BPD) from 1.37 million in June.

The level of OPEC supply, which is crucial to the near-term direction of oil prices, is considered by many traders to be generous but probably not so high as to cause another glut.

The latest view among industry sources in London and the Gulf is that Kuwaiti output may be down around 1.6 million BPD, including volume from a neutral zone shared with Saudi Arabia.

Industry sources expect that total organisation supply this month will prove to be slightly below a daily average in June of least 21.1 million barrels.

Lange seeks to revive Labour support

WELLINGTON, July 25, (Reuters): Prime Minister David Lange promised bold social initiatives for this week's New Zealand budget, seen as crucial for his battered Labour government's hopes in next year's general election.

Finance Minister David Caygill's budget on Thursday is set to reaffirm Labour's aim of cutting inflation to between zero and two per cent by 1992, despite bitter criticism that it is bankrupting the country and causing unemployment.

Lange said the strategy gave leeway to tackle economic stagnation and unemployment in a budget containing significant social initiatives.

"The economic policy of the government is not going to be subverted but the social policy of the government will start to come through," he told reporters.

Political analysts say Lange must use the budget to reverse a collapse in public support for his government if he is to have any chance of winning next year's poll.

According to opinion polls, the government trails the opposition National Party by up to 26 per cent.

'Strikers are blow to economy' New impetus to reform

MOSCOW, July 25, (Reuters): Miners' strikes which swept the Soviet Union over the past two weeks have been costly for the economy but have provided a new impetus for radical reform, Soviet and foreign analysts said today.

Although President Mikhail Gorbachev appeared to be walking a tightrope as the pushed towards a settlement, he has emerged with a stronger hand against conservatives opposing deeper change in the Soviet system, the analysts say.

"The strikes are a blow to the economy but above all they are a blow against the bureaucratic apparatus," said Viktor Loshak, deputy editor of the weekly Moscow News and a long-time writer on Soviet internal problems.

"They have worked in favour of reform, and Gorbachev can use what has happened. Because what we have seen is the workers whipping into new life a process that had bogged down," Loshak

added. "Gorbachev has shown once again his skill as a politician and has scored a real triumph," said an Asian writer with three decades of watching the Moscow political scene. "I think he will use it to smash the conservatives."

Conservatives, including members of the top leadership, have often argued that "the people and the working class" in whose name senior officials often speak were confused by many aspects of "perestroika."

Some insist that reform itself was responsible for the parlous state of the economy and chronic shortages of basic food items and essential consumer goods — which themselves certainly helped pushed the miners to strike.

A young worker deputy to the Supreme Soviet, the country's new free-wheeling parliament, was even more categorical.

Saudi prince signs trade pact

BALTIMORE, July 25, (AP): Prince Salman Bin Abdulaziz, brother of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, met yesterday with Gov. William Donald Schaefer and signed a co-operative trade agreement.

"It's a general friendship agreement to encourage future co-operation between Maryland and the province of Riyadh, which is the commercial centre of Saudi Arabia," said Jane Howard, director of public information for the State Department of Economic and Employment Development.

The prince is governor of Riyadh province. He toured the inner harbour yesterday after meeting Schaefer and about 200 Maryland and Saudi business and government officials at the Walters Art Gallery for a lunch to celebrate the signing of the pact.

A business seminar to promote joint trade ventures between companies in Maryland and Saudi Arabia followed the meeting.

The Baltimore visit was the prince's first public appearance in a US tour to promote the opening of a large cultural exhibit.

"Saudi Arabia: Yesterday and Today," is to open Saturday at the Convention Centre in Washington DC, and remain there through Aug 20.

The exhibit will move to Atlanta, Dallas, New York and Los Angeles. Previously, it has been on display in Germany, London, Cairo, and Paris.

Before going to Washington Friday for a dinner marking the exhibit opening, Prince Abdulaziz will travel to Richmond, Virginia, to meet with Gov. Gerald Baliles and business leaders in that state.

Spill clean-up causes Exxon's profit to plunge

NEW YORK, July 25, (AP): Industry analysts expressed surprise at Exxon Corp.'s costs for cleaning up the Alaska oil spill, which the world's largest oil company blamed in part for a \$1-billion plunge in its second-quarter profit.

"They're spending close to \$40 million a week instead of the \$20 million that they estimated earlier," Frank P. Knuettel of Prudential Bache Securities said yesterday after Exxon announced its earnings.

Also surprising was that Exxon's results did not provide for an after-tax credit on the oil spill losses, observers said. The company has said that it would write off the cleanup expense as a cost of doing business.

A bill pending in Congress would ban Exxon from deducting the costs of the cleanup.

"They can still take it later on, but for now it's probably a politically smart move,

said Brude Lazier, an analyst with Prescott, Ball and Turben Inc.

Exxon said that a special provision in the second quarter for expenses and insurance claims stemming from the March 24 spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound reduced its net income by \$850 million, or 67 cents a share.

Exxon said its net income fell 87 per cent to \$160 million, or 13 cents a share, from \$1.2 billion, or 90 cents a share, in the comparable 1988 quarter.

Without the provision, earnings would have declined by 16 per cent to \$1 billion, due to weaker refining profit margins, a stronger dollar and the US economic slowdown, Exxon said.

The New York-based company said the estimated provision includes \$600 million already spent on the cleanup as well as estimated future outlays but does not

include the cost of any lawsuits.

The provision is in addition to insurance coverage of more than \$400 million that will go toward cleaning up the 11 million gallons of spilled crude, Exxon said.

Second-quarter revenue for Exxon rose 9 per cent, to \$23.6 billion from \$21.63 billion.

So far, 143 suits have been filed against the company — 138 seeking damages and five derivative suits by shareholders — in connection with the spill from a grounded Exxon tanker that fouled hundreds of miles (kilometres) of water and coastline.

Environmentalists and a number of government officials have criticized Exxon's handling of the spill, contending the company was inadequately prepared for the disaster.

Alaska officials also were dismayed Monday when the oil company said it would not change its plan to withdraw its

oil spill cleanup forces from Prince William Sound by mid-September for the winter.

"Clean-up of the Alaskan oil spill was Exxon's top priority in the quarter," Exxon chairman Lawrence G. Rawl said in the company's earnings statement. "The magnitude of the required effort is huge and therefore costly."

But Rawl said Exxon's financial position remains strong.

"We are continuing to pursue our long-term business strategies and to implement planned capital programmes," he said.

For the first six months of 1989, Exxon's provision for the Alaska oil spill totalled \$880 million, including \$30 million charged in the first quarter. Exxon's earnings totalled \$1.4 billion, or \$1.12 a share for the first six months, down 46 per cent from \$2.66 billion, or \$1.96 a share, in the first half of 1988.

Exchange rates

Indian rupee	18.020
Sri Lankan rupee	8.580
Pakistani rupee	14.190
Bangladesh taka	9.100
US dollar	29650
Pound sterling	48275
Deutsche mark	15670
UAE dirhams	08080
Japanese yen	002091

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1989

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	OPEN
ABBEY NAT	143.0	
ADT LTD	188.0	
ALD LYONS	499.0	
AMSTRAD	71.92	
ARGVLL GP	232.0	
ASDA GP	190.0	
BAA	356.0	
BTR	404.0	
BAT INDS	882.5	
BARCLAYS	479.0	
BASS	030.0	
BEAZER	179.5	
BEECHAMS	631.5	
BERSFORD	55.84	
BICC PLC	523.0	
BLUE ARW	08.50	
BLUE CIRC	560.0	
BOC GP	523.0	
BOOTS CO	278.0	
BPB INDS	253.4	
BR COM	173.0	
BR AIRWAY	204.0	
BR AEROSP	707.0	
BR GAS RG	198.6	
BR LAND	371.0	
B.P.	304.0	
BR STEEL	75.25	
BR TELCOM	255.0	
BUNZEL	650.0	
BURMAN OL	239.0	
CABLEWIR	515.0	
CABURYS	444.0	
CALOR GRP	418.0	
CLRN COM	790.0	
CLRN R.T		
COOKSON	349.0	
COURTAUD	358.0	
DALGETY	412.0	
DIXONS	166.5	
ENG CHINA	471.0	
ENTER OIL	615.0	
FBI BACK	175.0	
FERRANTI	88.0	
FISONS	332.0	
GATEWAY	231.0	
GEN ACCID	983.0	
GEN ELEC	267.5	
GLAXO	400.0	
GRANADA	360.0	
GLOBE	191.0	
GLYNED	314.4	
GUARD RYL	220.0	
GNL	428.0	
GUINNESS	525.0	
HUMBERS	780.0	
HARRISON	220.4	
HARRIS C	169.0	
HILLSDOWN	80.75	

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	986.0	984.0
600 GROUP	134.0	134.0
A.AMER TS	475.0	476.0
A.S.W.HLD	389.0	391.0
A.S.W.HLD	266.0	266.0
AAB KENT	122.0	122.0
AAN HLD	406.0	407.0
AARDSON	90.0	90.0
ADISON	42.0	41.5
ALEX WRCV	215.0	215.0
ALEXON	397.0	396.0
ALLD COLL	156.0	156.0
ALLD IR B	173.0	173.0
ALLD LON	150.0	149.0
ALLD PART	75.4	76.0
ALLD TEXT	382.0	381.0
ALLIANCE	105.0	102.0
AMBER DAY	69.4	69.4
AMEC	453.0	453.0
AMER TST	161.4	161.4
AMERSHAM	477.0	477.0
AMH HLTHC	431.0	431.0
ANGLIA SC	187.0	191.0
ANGLIA TV	276.0	274.0
ANUSCHER	76.0	77.0
APPLEYARD	164.0	165.0
APV PLC	148.0	148.0
ASHLEY LA	101.0	99.0
ATTWOODS	476.0	475.0
AUTO REED	408.0	410.0
AUTO SECS	289.0	288.0
AVESCO	154.0	153.0
AVIS EUR	442.0	441.0
AVON RUBB	546.0	547.0
B.MEHLIT	272.0	271.0
BAILL JAP	540.0	544.0
BAILL SHI	94.4	94.0
BAIRD (W)	234.0	233.0
BANK IRE	231.0	231.0
BANKER IT	94.4	94.0
BARDON GP	196.0	196.0
BART DEV	180.0	180.0
BAYNES C	35.0	35.0
BBA GROUP	208.0	209.0
BEAR BRND	14.4	14.4
BEATTIE J	150.0	151.0
BEHAVEN	52.0	52.0
BELLWAY	204.0	205.0
BEMROSE	247.0	246.0
BENLOX H	62.0	62.0
BERKELEY	202.0	201.0
BH GROUP	144.0	144.0
BK OF SCO	101.0	101.0
BLCK L2	8.6	8.6
BM GROUP	501.0	503.0
BNK IR NW	231.0	231.0
BNKNET +F	103.0	103.0
BOASE NAS	363.0	363.0
BOODINGTN	180.0	180.0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 300 ORD	1886.0	1872.9	1872.9	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	1280.16	1280.16	1272.76	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1155.26	1155.26	1166.44	926.59
FT GOV SEC	86.34	86.34	86.40	87.30
FT GOLD NN	194.60	193.20	193.00	161.9
FT MINES F	671.83	671.83	673.35	565.31
FT OIL	0	2168.8	2187.9	1725.4
FT WLD DLR	147.19	147.98	147.36	139.21
FT WLD STG	134.87	135.34	134.28	115.30
FT WLD LOC	140.46	140.63	139.75	129.77

London Stock Market Report

LONDON STOCKS RISE IN CAUTIOUS LATE TRADING

LONDON, JULY 25, REUTER - SHARES MOVED HIGHER IN LATE AFTERNOON TRADING AS WALL STREET MADE MODEST EARLY GAINS. BUT ACTIVITY REMAINED HIGHLY CAUTIOUS AHEAD OF U.K. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FIGURES TOMORROW AND CONTINUED CONCERN OVER HIGH WAGE SETTLEMENTS.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET WAS ALREADY DISCOUNTING A SLIGHT WIDENING IN THE JUNE TRADE DEFICIT BUT MEMORIES OF RECENT VERY HIGH DEFICITS ARE A CONSTANT DISCOURAGEMENT. "THE FIGURES ARE JUST TOO VOLATILE TO TAKE A POSITION ON," SAID ONE DEALER.

BY 1446 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS 10.3 POINTS UP AT A DAY'S HIGH OF 2269.4 WITH TURNOVER A MEAGRE 348.7 MLN SHARES.

TRADERS SAID THE MARKET EXPECTED THE JUNE CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT TO WIDEN TO 1.6 BILLION STG FROM 1.3 BILLION IN MAY.

DEALERS SAID A CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY SURVEY THIS MORNING SHOWING A SHARP FALL IN BUSINESS OPTIMISM HAD BEEN WELL DISCOUNTED AND THE MARKET CHOSE TO CONCENTRATE ON THE SURPRISE INCREASE IN EXPORT OPTIMISM IN THE REPORT.

NATWEST BANK STOPPED UP AT 310 DESPITE THE RESIGNATION OF ITS CHAIRMAN AND THREE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OVER THE BLUE ARROW RIGHTS ISSUE SCANDAL. ANALYSTS SAID THE MARKET WAS ALWAYS UNHAPPY ABOUT UNCERTAINTY AND THE RESIGNATIONS HAD NOW REMOVED MOST OF THAT.

London Gold

LONDON, JULY 25, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CLOSED MARGINALLY LOWER, GIVING UP EARLIER SMALL GAINS AS THE DOLLAR RECOVERED. THE MARKET CLOSED 50 CENTS DOWN AT 371.50/372 DLRs AN OUNCE.

DEALERS SAID TRADING WAS QUIET AND DOLLAR-DRIVEN THROUGHOUT THE DAY. THE DOLLAR FELL AT THE START OF THE AFTERNOON IN RESPONSE TO A SMALLER THAN EXPECTED JUNE INCREASE OF 0.3 PCT IN U.S. DURABLE GOODS ORDERS, BUT IT FOUND SUPPORT AROUND 1.8880 MARKS AND REBOUNDED TOWARDS THE 1.90 MARKS LEVEL.

GOLD TOUCHED A HIGH OF 373.25/373.75 DLRs ON THE U.S. DATA BUT DRIFTED DOWN TO A LOW OF 371.37/371.50 DLRs IN LATER BUSINESS. THE METAL WAS FIXED AT 372.80 AND 371.25 DLRs.

London Money Market

LONDON, JULY 25, REUTER - U.K. MONEY RATES MOSTLY RETAINED THEIR EARLIER SLIGHTLY FIRMER TONE AT THE LONG END AFTER ANOTHER SLUGGISH DAY'S TRADE, AS DEALERS LOOKED TO SQUARE POSITIONS BEFORE TOMORROW'S TRADE FIGURES.

TRADERS SAID THE CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY'S QUARTERLY INDUSTRIAL TRENDS SURVEY MAY HAVE HELPED TO KEEP RATES FIRM. THE SURVEY SAID U.K. BUSINESS OPTIMISM HAS FALLEN SHARPLY AND THAT INVESTMENT IN PLANT AND MACHINERY WOULD PROBABLY RISE MUCH MORE SLOWLY IN THE NEXT YEAR.

TRADERS SAID THIS COULD BE TAKEN AS A SIGN THE GOVERNMENT'S HIGH INTEREST RATE POLICY IS WORKING AND WILL BE MAINTAINED.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.6270/80	1.8920/30	6.4160/80	NOON
STG	1.6265/75	3.0765/800	10.4330/490	NOON
DMK	1.8885/895	3.0720/86	29.41/57	FIX
FFR	6.411/423	10.4285/4465	338.78/339.4	FIX
SFR	1.6293/6303	2.6501/6533	86.07/17	NOON
ECU	2.1340	3.4710	112.795	FIX
NFL	1.62525	0.780621	3.2365	CLSE
SDR	1.62523	0.780621	2.41165	CLSE
YEN	142.28/38	231.41/73	8.17971	NOON
SDR RATE	24/07/1989	OTHERS	25/07/1989	

BODY SHOP	436.0	438.0
BOOTH HENR	510.0	513.0
BORTHWICK	42.0	42.0
BR ARROW	117.0	118.0
BR ASSETS	82.4	82.4
BR DREDGI	167.0	168.0
BR VITA	294.0	293.0
BRENT CHE	143.0	142.0
BRENT WCR	387.0	386.0
BRIDON	203.0	204.0
BRITANNIC	182.0	182.0
BRITANNIC	465.0	464.0
BRIXTON E	221.0	220.0
BRN & JAC	44.0	43.4
BROWN SHI	350.0	350.0
BRYANT GP	102.0	103.0
BSG INTL	81.0	81.0
BUDGENS	110.0	109.0
BULLOUGH	157.0	157.0
BULMER HP	175.0	175.0
CAIRO GP	572.0	570.0
CALENDONIA	398.0	400.0
CAMB ELEC	212.0	213.0
CANFORD E	291.0	291.0
CANNING ST	227.0	228.0
CAP RADIO	797.0	797.0
CARADON	328.0	329.0
CARLON E	137.0	137.0
CATTLE HD	69.0	70.0
CAULDON	12.4	12.4
CENTL ITV	785.0	788.0
CHAM PHRR	214.0	213.0
CHARTERNA	22.6	22.6
CHLORIDE	39.0	39.0
CHRISTIES	298.0	299.0
CI GROUP	50.0	51.0
CLAYFORD	306.0	303.0
CNTRL SEC	58.0	58.0
CNTRY OIL	159.0	160.0
COLALTE	481.0	481.0
COATES BR	286.0	285.0
COLOROL	145.0	150.0
CORNWELLS	215.0	215.0
COOPER F	136.0	136.0
COSTAIN	322.0	323.0
COURTIS FR	198.0	198.0
COMIE (T)	139.0	139.0
CRH	212.0	212.0
CRODA INT	228.0	229.0
CRYSTALAT	113.0	113.0
CRTS PROP	213.0	213.0
DAREY EST	34.0	34.0
DAVIS GPO	177.0	178.0
DAVY CORP	276.0	276.0
DAVISON GP	138.0	135.0
DELTA GRP	354.0	355.0
DEVENISH	322.0	323.0
DEWHIRST	41.4	41.0
DIPLOMA	220.0	221.0
DOBSON PK	102.4	102.4
DOWDING	79.0	79.0
DOUGHTY GP	271.0	272.0
DRAYTON FE	438.0	438.0
DRAYTON C	54.0	54.0
DUKINSTR	72.0	72.0
DUNDEE LD	325.0	325.0
DUNHILL	374.0	375.0
EAGLE TST	17.4	18.0
EDIN I-T	203.0	203.0
EDMOND HD	39.4	39.0
ELECTRA	308.0	308.0
ELECTRON	220.0	221.0
EMAP	255.0	256.0
ENESS	142.0	142.0
EMPIRE ST	182.0	181.0
ENG INT-J	304.0	304.0
ETAM	199.0	199.0
EURO HOME	198.0	195.0
EURORHET	343.0	343.0
EURLTH UL	855.0	858.0
EURLTH UL	65.4	66.0
EVODE GRP	172.0	171.0
EX.CO.LOU	255.0	257.0
EXPANET	226.0	227.0
F&C ENTER	37.0	36.0
F&C ENTER	324.0	324.0
F&C PAPER	183.0	185.0
F&C SWILL	86.0	86.0
FARMELL E	162.0	162.0
FED HOUSN	159.0	160.0
FENNER JH	174.0	175.0
FERGUSON	251.0	251.0
FINE ARTS	277.0	277.0
FLNG TECH	194.0	195.0
FRINDLY HO	282.0	283.0
FROMORE	538.0	537.0
GALLFORD	95.0	95.0
GARDINER	58.0	58.0
GEEST	284.0	283.0
GET INTL	149.0	150.0
GERKONAT	261.0	262.0
GESTETNER	271.0	271.0
GOODE DUR	143.0	144.0
GPG	37.0	36.0
GRANPH HD	218.0	219.0
GREEN KNG	521.0	520.0
GREENL W	315.0	317.0
GREYCOAT	542.0	543.0
GRUP TV A	66.0	66.0
GT PRTLD	395.0	395.0
GUINNESS MA	146.0	146.0
GUS ORT	608.0	600.0
GVTT ORIE	386.0	388.0
GVTT STRA	290.0	291.0
H'LAND DIS	213.0	214.0
HALMA	286.0	286.0
HAMERSON	827.0	828.0
HAWTHIN LE	69.4	69.4
HAZELWOOD	262.0	263.0
HEATH(CP)	468.0	467.0
HELENE PL	32.0	32.0
HELICAL B	342.0	341.0

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
AUSTRIA	323.90	323.00	322.10	284.0
AUSTRIA	326.20	322.90	321.70	287.9
BELGIUM	451.00	449.60	449.60	445.3
CANADA	424.10	425.10	423.40	350.7
DENMARK	748.40	757.30	756.20	602.3
FRANCE	512.70	511.10	509.10	464.4
GERMANY	242.40	242.60	240.90	206.7
HONG KONG	1855.8	1866.6	1905.8	1644.3
FINLAND	124.50	124.60	124.30	128.3
ITALY	519.60	529.60	534.20	471.2
JAPAN	1510.4	1502.1	1486.6	1483.6
HOLLAND	324.50	326.20	325.90	296.8
NEW ZEAL	93.70	93.50	93.30	90.3
NORWAY	832.20	833.50	835.40	751.0
SPAIN	782.10	782.30	787.70	694.7
SWEDEN	255.50	255.10	255.10	205.5
SWITZER	1425.0	1422.2	1421.7	1247.1
U.K.	219.80	218.10	217.20	186.7
U.S.A.	684.10	691.50	693.90	515.7
U.S.A.	307.70	309.30	307.50	270.9
WORLD	522.70	525.10	520.90	503.4
E A F E	952.60	955.70	947.90	757.5

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	42.77	42.77
ATLANTIC R	98.00	98.00
AAR CORP	33.11	32.77
ABBOTT LAB	62.11	62.00
ACME CLVLD	11.51	11.51
AD MICRO	8.77	9.00
AEROFL LAB	4.75	4.75
AETNA LIFE	57.00	57.00
GOODRICH	21.62	21.62
GOODYEAR	53.00	53.0

Subsidies getting out of hand: Ben Ali

TUNIS, July 25, (Reuters): Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali said today government spending on food subsidies was getting out of hand and could not go on forever.

"We cannot stand back for long with our arms crossed while the costs continue to grow. They already absorb a quarter of the state's current spending, or enough to build 150 secondary schools or eight dams a year," he said.

The subsidies, mainly on milk, wheat and cooking oil, will cost 400 million dinars (\$420 million) this year, over 40 per cent more than in 1988, according to official figures.

Ben Ali, in a speech marking the anniversary of the proclamation of a republic in 1956, said he had asked the government to devise a system to ensure the subsidies only reach those who really need them.

Subsidised goods are now sold to everyone, without limits on quantity and at prices far below cost. A loaf of bread, for example, costs 70 millimes (seven US cents).

Subsidies have always been a sensitive issue in Tunisia, especially since 1984 when 89 people were killed in riots sparked by a sudden rise in the price of bread.

Ben Ali dismissed persistent rumours that he was planning to set up a new political party as an alternative to the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD), which he inherited from former President Habib Bourguiba in 1987.

"We proclaim frankly and clearly that the RCD is the party of the president and at the same time the party of change," he said. Press reports over the past month had said he might call the new party the party of change.

The president said Tunisia did not want too many political parties and nothing could justify parties which did not define the type of society they wanted and which did not respect the principles of tolerance and freedom of conscience.

He was apparently referring to the Nahdha movement, a Muslim militant party which the government has not so far recognised.

Projects in Brazil and India flayed

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP): World Bank projects in Brazil, India and Indonesia were attacked at a US Senate hearing yesterday as harmful to the environment.

Detailed criticism came from Lord Udall on behalf of the US Environmental Defence Fund, the National Wildlife Federation, the Environmental Policy Institute — all private organisations.

Lori Udall, staff attorney for the fund, said \$1 billion worth of loans in Brazil's Pálororoeste and Amazon areas set conditions for protection of the environment and of the Indians there. These conditions are not being met, she charged.

"The situation in Pálororoeste is in shambles, with numerous biological reserves, protected forest areas and Indian reserves suffering from illegal logging, mining and agricultural squatters," she said.

Her statement was given to the foreign operations subcommittee of the appropriations committee.

In India she said the bank should suspend or cancel \$450 million worth of loans for the Sardar Sarovar dam, because Indian state governments have disregarded guidelines for the resettlement of 90,000 people.

Iran to sell gas to Moscow

NICOSIA, July 25, (Reuters): Iran has agreed to export three billion cubic metres of natural gas a year to the Soviet Union under a programme of wide economic co-operation.

The official IRNA news agency said yesterday that Deputy Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Ali Majidi signed a draft accord in Moscow for the sale of two billion cubic metres a year in the first year and three billion annually after that.

Iran and the Soviet Union, improving ties after years of distrust, said in June that they planned industrial co-operation, joint oil exploration and other projects, including gas sales.

Debt pact hands Brady major victory

US hails accord

Mexico debt agreement raises Manila's hopes

MANILA, July 25, (Reuters): The landmark Mexican debt accord has fuelled Philippine hopes of being next in line for a US-sponsored plan to cut Third World debt, Manila officials and foreign bankers said today.

Several indebted countries, including the Philippines, have anxiously awaited the conclusion of three-month-long negotiations between Mexico and its foreign commercial creditors concluded last Sunday in Washington.

The pact, which marked the first time international banks have accepted debt reduction as an integral element of rescheduling negotiations with Third

World countries, was seen as a test case for a proposal made in March by US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to reduce debt of poorer countries.

"We have been waiting in the wings, so to speak," a senior Philippine government official involved in past debt talks said in an interview.

"It will be easier for us to come to an agreement," he said, referring to Manila's hopes of getting \$1.7 billion in new loans from its creditor banks and a reduction of existing debt. The official asked not to be named.

The Philippines' foreign debt totalled \$27.9 billion or 48.9 per cent owed to its

creditor banks.

But foreign bankers say the Philippines is far from resolving its debt of other economic problems.

One international financial expert involved in the debt said Mexico-style debt reduction deal would give the Philippines a badly needed three-to-four year breathing space for its financing needs.

But he said it would also give Manila politicians, including some who have proven short-sighted in the past on economic and financial policy matters, "the chance to make stupid decisions."

"It's like when you give an irrespons-

ble kid a big allowance — and he buys bubble gum," said the expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Foreign bankers said they feared Manila might resume a dangerous numbers game in future negotiations by insisting creditors give the Philippines the same package as Mexico.

"This is ridiculous because all of these countries are different and the packages are very complex," one banker said in a telephone interview. "You can't compare them."

Sunday's accord could reduce Mexico's \$54 billion commercial bank debt by 35 per cent.

less than it would have been if it had continued to take out new loans simply to pay interest.

In that regard, the pact marks a significant break with the strategy of Brady's predecessor, current Secretary of State James Baker, who encouraged banks to keep making new loans until they could afford to suffer partial losses.

Some past deals, including

Mexico's bond-for-loans exchange last year, have involved banks giving up part of their claims, but the new agreement is the most explicit recognition yet that much of the Third World's \$1.2-trillion debt will never be repaid.

Private analysts broadly welcomed the deal.

"The agreement... provides cash flow relief but probably not

significant net debt reduction. However, it provides Mexico with breathing room to resume critical economic growth," Richard Feinberg of the Overseas Development Council, a Washington think tank, said.

William Cline of the Institute for International Economics, called the accord positive and realistic and said it would bolster confidence in the Mexican econ-

omy so that domestic interest rates can fall a spurring investment.

"It bodes well for Mexico's ability to get back into the international capital markets," Cline added.

The deal was not easy to do. The treasury had to step in when talks almost fell apart on Friday afternoon. "We put a lot of heat

on both sides," one official said. "I've never been through one of these negotiations that was so intense."

And the work is not over. A \$2 billion multilateral bridge loan has to be assembled to tide Mexico over until the complex agreement, which must be approved by 450 banks worldwide, is implemented, probably not for six or nine months.

Plans to delay BAPCO modernisation drive

Bahrain to expand aluminium smelter

ABU DHABI, July 25, (Reuters): Bahrain plans to delay modernising its oil refinery and use foreign loans to expand its aluminium smelter instead, according to Gulf oil and financial sources.

"You cannot chew more than a mouthful at once," a banker told Reuters. The smelter project will cost \$1.4 billion and the refinery modernisation more than \$1 billion, the sources said.

"Bahrain gave priority to expand the capacity of the smelter because its neighbours are entering the same game," an oil industry source said.

The sources said 85 per cent of the smelter expansion cost is likely to be financed by borrowing, much of it from international banks and equipment suppliers.

A syndicated loan of about \$500 million will be arranged by the end of 1989, the sources said. The smelter run by Aluminium Bahrain BSC (ALBA) will produce 400,000 tonnes of aluminium a year by the end of the four-year project. A programme is already under way to boost output to 205,000 tonnes a year from 170,000.

Earlier this month Bahrain said it raised its stake in ALBA from 57.9 per cent to 74.9 per cent. Saudi Arabia holds 20 per cent and Breton Investments of West Germany 5.1 per cent.

Industry sources have said Saudi Arabia plans to build a 240,000-tonne a year smelter. Qatar also aims to build one and Dubai aims to expand its existing one to about 170,000 tonnes a year.

All the countries will benefit from having cheap natural gas, used extensively by smelters.

The sources said Bahrain would delay for at least a year plans to modernise its Bahrain Petroleum Company BSC (BAPCO) refinery, which has a capacity of 250,000 barrels per day (BPD). They said modernisation would lower the sulphur content of the refined oil. BAPCO would also produce less heavy fuel oil and more lighter products such as petrol, which sell at a higher price.

"In a few years time Bahrain

might not be able to find a market for its products with its high sulphur content," an oil industry executive in the Gulf said. Many countries control sulphur emissions to protect the environment.

The sources said BAPCO might build a unit to extract sulphur at a lower cost than the planned total upgrading.

Bahrain owns 60 per cent of BAPCO and Caltex Petroleum Corp 40 per cent.

Saudi Arabia supplies more than 200,000 BPD of crude oil to BAPCO to supplement just over 40,000 BPD produced domestically.

Bankers said Bahrain could finance the smelter project and the refinery modernisation at the same time but preferred not to approach international banks for financing in the same year.

Bahrain will use international credits to finance 85 per cent of a \$100 million urea plant to be built by Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company, the bankers added.

Private sector gains ground

CAIRO, July 25, (Reuters): Egypt is very unlikely to renege price controls on private sector companies, according to Mohamed Al Ghareeb, head of the powerful Investment Authority, said.

A new investment law, which came into force this week and has a loophole that could allow the return of price controls — would be applied with the aim of giving freedom to businessmen, he said.

"I don't foresee any kind of price controls simply because I think the tendency of the government now is to provide more freedom to the private sector in general," Ghareeb told Reuters in an interview.

Foreign businessmen say the risk of fresh price controls is a key worry in a country which still has a big public sector and highly centralised economy.

The new law improves some tax incentives for new projects and clarifies regulations for both new and existing companies.

It also simplifies bureaucratic controls. Businessmen who previously had to go round knocking on the doors of many different ministries will in future need approval for new projects only from the Investment Authority.

"The importance of the new law is that instead of applying to get loans from other departments you can get the loan through the Investment Authority. You can also apply to have licences from offices which will be opened in the authority."

"We are now simplifying and unifying all procedures in one department," he said.

Ghareeb added that other benefits from the new law were that it ensured for the first time the principle of freedom from price controls and offered existing companies a chance to reduce indebtedness.

Some critics have said the law does not go far enough in unravelling state control. They have complained about a clause which says that while there shall be no price controls, the government may impose controls on certain products in special circumstances in the future.

"The government has no intention at all to interfere in fixing prices," Ghareeb said.



Workers fill carriages

Two workers fill carriages which are used to transport the materials dug out from the Channel Tunnel on Monday. The Channel Tunnel (Chunnel) is a rail tunnel from England to France that is presently being dug. So far the French have bored 9,456m from Sangatte. (Reuters wirephoto)

Conference on economic aid

EEC officials to visit Poland, Hungary

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 25, (AP): European Economic Community officials will visit Poland and Hungary this week to prepare for a conference on economic aid programme for the two East bloc countries, a spokesman said today.

The fact-finding teams will assess the situation in each country in advance of the Aug 1 meeting in Brussels of officials from 23 countries, said the EEC spokesman, who demanded anonymity.

At their annual economic summit earlier this month, the leaders of the seven richest democracies called for a special programme that would encourage economic reforms in Poland and Hungary. They also urged emergency shipments of food to Poland to ease serious shortages.

The EEC trading bloc, also known as the common market, was put in charge of the task.

Western nations would like to find ways to spur the drive in Eastern Europe toward more open political and economic systems, without upsetting the Soviet Union.

The Common Market announced yesterday it had invited 23 nations — 18 European countries plus the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand — to meet next week to discuss how to co-ordinate aid to Warsaw and Budapest.

Agriculture ministers representing the 12 Common Market nations yesterday approved a \$120-million food aid package for Poland. The commun-

ity intends to send the Poles surplus grains, meat, olive oil and citrus fruits this year and next. The shipments could begin in a few weeks.

The EEC spokesman said the community wants to link the free food shipments to changes in the Polish economy's structure, particularly in the system for getting food from farmers to consumers. Such an approach has been used in a previous EEC development project in India.

One possibility would be to permit the Poles to sell the food on the free market and use the money to improve the food distribution chain.

Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski asked US President George Bush and other leaders at the Paris summit for a multibillion-dollar rescue package over the next two years.

He sought \$1 billion to restructure food supplies, \$2 billion in new loans and additional financing for a variety of projects. He also wanted the industrialised nations to reduce and stretch out payments on Poland's \$39-billion foreign debt.

In a separate development, the Common Market continued negotiations with Polish officials to work out a trade and economic co-operation agreement between Warsaw and the trading bloc.

The agreement, expected to be finished soon, would be the latest in a series of trade pacts the community has drawn up with East European countries.

Time acquires Warner

\$14 billion deal

WILMINGTON, Del., July 25, (Reuters): Time Inc. has eluded an unwanted suitor and bought Warner Communications in a \$14-billion deal which creates the world's largest media company.

Time said it acquired 58-per cent of the Warner stock yesterday hours after the Delaware Supreme Court denied an appeal by Paramount Communications, which sought to block the Time-Warner deal.

Within hours of the court ruling, Paramount dropped its \$12.2 billion bid for Time.

Time now must forge a company out of the vast holdings of Warner and Time while borrowing more than \$8 billion to complete the deal.

Time chairman Richard Munro, who will co-chair the newly formed Time Warner Inc., said the board will meet tomorrow to consider how Time would acquire the remaining Warner shares.

"We will begin discussing that (the purchase of remaining shares) in some detail," Munro said adding that the process should be completed within 60 to 90 days.

Time has said it will buy the shares through a combination of cash, equity or debt securities valued at \$70 a share.

In the ruling on Monday, the Delaware Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision allowing the buyout of Warner to go through even though Time did not put the plan to a stockholder vote. Opposing

lawyers called the Time victory a major blow to shareholder rights.

Paramount's legal challenge was part of its effort to win Time in a takeover bid that was considered dead if Time and Warner merged. Paramount has said it will not make a bid for the combined Time-Warner.

The Time-Warner merger sets up a company with combined sales of \$8.7 billion, by far the largest media company in the world, passing Bertelsmann A.G., the West German conglomerate that owns Doubleday Books and RCA Records and has sales of \$6.2 billion, and Rupert Murdoch's News Ltd with \$4.35 billion in sales.

With Time, Money, Sports Illustrated, People and other publications, Time is already the nation's largest magazine publisher. Lesser-known properties such as Time's vast cable holdings and its Home Box Office and Cinemax make even more money for the media giant than the well-known magazines.

Paramount and Warner are both large, diversified entertainment/media companies built on successful Hollywood movie studios.

"Any company that maintains it has a long-term business strategy can fight off a takeover. Board's can now make themselves takeover-proof," said Sherrie Savett, a lawyer for a shareholder group.

Economic uncertainties stimulate capital flight

SAO PAULO, Brazil, July 25, (AP): Fears of political and economic instability are causing an unprecedented capital flight from Brazil, economists and government officials say.

A record \$12 billion is expected to leave the country illegally this year, said economist Clarice Peckman, a leading foreign-exchange expert.

Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega claims capital flight is "not a serious problem in a country like Brazil, although recent estimates indicate it has accelerated over the past few years."

But a central bank official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said the government tries to minimise the situation. "Illegal capital flight, as well as the black market, are like illegitimate children," he said. "Everyone knows they exist, but no one wants to admit it."

Legal profit remittances also are increasing, as many subsidiaries of foreign-owned multinationals choose to send money back home rather than reinvest it in Brazil.

The dollar drain hurts this economically ailing country, which needs hard currency to modernise its industry and pay its \$112-billion foreign debt, the Third World's largest.

"With hyperinflation just around the corner, a government that lacks any credibility, and all sorts of uncertainties surrounding the country's political and economic future, it is only natural that those who can will send their money out of the country," said economist Joaquim Eloi Cirne de Toledo of the University of Sao Paulo.

Nobrega said the only way to slow down capital flight is by "establishing a climate of confidence, because capital flight is a product of uncertainty."

Inflation is running at over 1,000 per cent and rising. President Jose Sarney's government is widely discredited after four failed anti-inflation programmes.

Presidential elections scheduled for Nov 15 add to the uncertainty. Brazilians will choose their president for the first time in 29 years, following the end of an authori-

itarian military regime that ruled in 1964-85.

Miss Peckman, who compiled figures from the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., estimated \$7.5 billion left the country illegally last year, compared with \$5.8 billion for the entire 1978-82 period. The amount is expected to rise again this year.

The government's Central Bank said it had no official estimates of capital flight. The bank official, who spoke anonymously, claimed it keeps track but won't comment "because we only release figures pertaining to legal activities."

The official said it was difficult for the government to prevent the outflow because "it would require huge investments in manpower to check every single foreign trade transaction."

The government has shown concern with the outflow and the drain on hard-currency reserves, which are currently estimated at \$5 billion to 6 billion.

In late June, Brazil missed a debt payment to foreign government creditors,

claiming it had to maintain its reserves. Part of the payment was made two weeks later.

The government also ordered all foreign-exchange operations to be made through the Central Bank, in an effort to slow down remittances. Previously, any bank could make those operations.

Toledo said the billions leaving the country "could be used to increase imports of capital goods and high-tech products needed to modernise our industry and make it more competitive on the world market."

In theory, he said, "import restrictions imposed to guarantee trade surpluses could be done away with, and our trade disputes with the United States would be resolved."

The most common illegal methods of getting dollars out of the country are contraband — especially of coffee and soybeans — and by falsifying invoices for exports and imports, Peckman and Toledo said.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 25/07/1989			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
3	Dona Sophia	GH & Q	4347815
4	Qu Jiang	M. Bahar	2433881
6	Atlantic Express	Sager	2432692
7	Daizi Maru	Algh Barwil	4842988
9	Cap Norte	GH & Q	4347816
14	Rogen	Algh Barwil	4842988
18	Arthon	GH & Q	4347815
19	Meltem	GH & Q	4347815
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
25/7	Alyasrah	Livestock	2434177
25/7	Pioneer Runner	ISA	2441860
25/7	Roman Pazinski	A. Seas	2421303
26/7	Zarka	GH & Q	4347815
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
9	El Flamenco	Algh Seafreight	4745533
14	Ming Yu	Algh Barwil	4842988
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
0'due	Charalambos B	Algh Barwil	4842988
26/7	Dona Sophia	GH & Q	4347815
0'due	Cap. Ali	Algh Barwil	4842988
25/7	Qatari Ibn Al Fuja'a	UASC	4843150
25/7	Addiriyah	UASC	4843150
25/7	New Oasis	A.S. Marafie	4848665
25/7	Qu Jiang	RSMs	2423642
26/7	Fazin	M.A. Bahar	2433881
25/7	Golden Harvest	M.A. Bahar	2433881
29/7	Al Wajha	UASC	4843150
01/8	Puffin Arrow	Algh. S. Freight	4745533
01/8	Al Isha'a	UASC	4843150
10/8	Cplden Wonder	M.A. Bahar	2433881
20/8	Al Manakh	UASC	4843150
Compiled by: Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Tel. 4842988/4843968 ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712, Tlx 22084 Barwil KT			

By Kathy Cuddihy

Job satisfaction

IT's that time of the year when kids actively sniff around part-time jobs. The long summer holiday provides excellent scope for earning a bit of cash that will hopefully supplement parental pay-outs through the school year. Well, at least until December or so.

Even my own, very under-age children have begun to make persistent enquiries about what they can do to earn spending money. (That's the only kind of money children know about!) Being sympathetic to their desires, and admiring their industrious natures, I helpfully offer a few in-home job opportunities.

"Well, the silver is in bad need of polishing. That should be good for half a day's wages."

"Silver polishing stinks, Mom. Besides, we don't want to commit ourselves to a whole half day. You have to remember that we're on vacation."

"Listen, guys. You're the ones applying for jobs. I'm not forcing you to work. Beggars can't be choosers. You have to realize that in the working world you often have to do things you don't particularly want to do. That's life. Heaven only knows I've had to do a few unappealing things in my time."

"Yeh? Like what? To us it looks as though you've led a pretty charming life."

Give us some 'unappealing' examples."

"You're observing my life from a limited viewpoint. But, for your information, I had to do lots of difficult things when I worked my way around Australia long ago. For instance, I was once asked to herd 700 sheep from one paddock to another about 1/2 mile away. The owner left me with two sheepdogs and told me the commands they understood. Despite his assurances that the exercise would be a piece of cake and the dogs would do all the work, it was a disaster. I forgot the commands. Those sheep wandered in 700 directions all over the country, until the owner returned and got things in order. What an experience!"

"You call that work, Mom? That sounds like fun."

"You might not think it such a lot of fun to paint the roof of a huge house. It took a friend and me a week of hard labour to complete the job. Then, on the last day, we spilled some paint and I slipped in it. Fortunately I managed to catch hold of the edge of the roof or I would have gone right over."

"Well..."

"And you might not think it too entertaining to

work in a meat-packing plant. I had that job in Northern Australia, where the climate is hot and humid. Inside the freezer rooms the contrast was unbearable. After morning tea break, when we had 15 minutes back in the warmth, the girls had to push me back into the freezer rooms. It was like returning to a torture chamber."

"Aha! But you once told us you only lasted one day at that job."

"Well, perhaps that's true, but at least I gave it a try. At any rate, don't think that yucky jobs end when you become a so-called professional. I've had a couple of zingers as a freelance writer."

"Come on, Mom, don't be a martyr. You usually get pretty exciting assignments."

"They may sound exciting to you, but sometimes the reality is a hard slog. Remember the time I did that article on mussel farming? Not only did I get seasick on the trawler, but then I got stranded for hours in the middle of a rough bay when the engine conked out. And what about when that investment magazine asked me to be their Middle East correspondent? I can't even balance my bank book, or

distinguish a bull from a bear, for goodness' sake!"

"Still, Mom, you have to admit that nothing you had to do was quite as bad as polishing silver. And I'll bet your employers paid you more than starvation wages. Maybe we'll just stick to babysitting. At least it's a bearable task... and fairly lucrative."

So much for impressing the little rascals with a work ethic. As I tried to figure out some way to get them to polish the silver (I didn't want to commit myself to a whole half day of thankless effort), the phone rang."

"Kathy," came the cheery voice of my editor, "I have an assignment for you. I want you to do a story on a satellite communication centre."

"Satellites? The only thing I know about microwave technology is that it takes one minute and 45 seconds to make a cup of coffee in the morning. Why not give this assignment to one of your science-buff writers and send me to suss out the tourist potentials of Tahiti... or whatever."

"Kathy, we want you to do the job. Sometimes you have to do things you don't particularly want to do. That's life, old girl." Where have I heard that before?

Oranges, apples turn nasty

Horridly wholesome

By Laura Zackon

THOUSANDS of children are allergic to junk food — items containing artificial colouring and preservatives.

With Marc Tish, it's different. He turns into a little monster if he eats wholesome and nutritional foods like oranges and apples. Instead of keeping the doctor away, one apple could produce behaviour which Marc's mother has described as being "like a bull in a china shop".

The five-year-old would run around in circles for no apparent reason and she would be unable to reason with him.

The hyperactive youngster was found to be allergic to many foods most mothers would assume to be good for their children.

His mother Jenny told me: "Marc would have good days and very bad days when his attention span was minimal, so he wasn't learning anything at school."

Finally, on the recommendation of the mother of another hyperactive child, Jenny took Marc to the Breakspere Hospital in Hertfordshire.

The Breakspere specialises in the diagnosis and treatment of patients who suffer from allergies.

Marc stayed at the hospital for two weeks and during that time it was discovered that he was allergic to 63 substances. His treatment started immediately and just four weeks later Jenny saw a marked improvement.

"He's much calmer," she said. "His attention span is longer and his vocabulary has improved."

While being tested at the hospital, Marc reacted to such food as melon, pears, bananas, potatoes, rice, beef, lamb and turkey. And the most commonly toxic foods, namely milk and wheat products, had no effect on him.

Jenny said: "I couldn't believe he was allergic to such basic things. I thought I was giving him a really healthy diet but all the fruit he was eating just made him worse."

"He loves apples and was always asking for them. But I have since learned that if you are allergic to something, it's quite possible that you could also become addicted to it. So Marc was probably addicted to apples."

Marc now has desensitising drops every day. "They are tiny amounts of all the substances he is allergic to," said Jenny. "The idea is that he gradually builds up a tolerance to them and can cope with all the different types of food. He is also allergic to some pollens and chemicals."

Other "With other methods of allergy treatment, people are told, 'This is what you're allergic to, so don't eat it.' This new way may take a little longer but it is a lot fairer because he is sensitive to so many things."

"The only food he mustn't ever have is orange. He became so high on two fresh oranges at the hospital that I was told it wasn't worth treating for it. But that's no great hardship. It isn't as though they are difficult to avoid."

Marc is also on a special "rotation diet" which means he is not to repeat any foods in less than a four-day cycle. So if Jenny cooks with olive oil one day, she must use an alternative like corn oil the next.

As we sat in the kitchen of her home in Chigwell, Essex, Jenny told me: "Today is Marc's soya milk day, yesterday was cow's milk, and tomorrow he'll have goat's milk. It's very lucky he isn't a fussy eater. His treatment would be virtually impossible if he was."

She explained Marc's allergy screening at the Breakspere: "To test his tolerance to a substance, his pulse rate was taken and then a drop of concentrate was put under his tongue."

Ten minutes later his pulse was taken again. If it hadn't become any faster, he wasn't allergic to the substance and if it had



Marc Tish, he turns into a little monster if he eats wholesome and nutritional foods like oranges and apples.

speeded up, he was. Then process would then be repeated, with his pulse taken again and more drops given to him, until his heartbeat stabilised at a certain rate.

"The more drops he had to have usually meant the more allergic he was to a certain thing. But with oranges, his pulse stabilised at only three drops and yet, when he was given fresh orange to eat, he went berserk."

"It's a complicated process. Using different concentrates, it's possible to find the one he is most tolerant to and that is the one which is used for the desensitising treatment."

"It took two weeks of tests to find all these allergies and there are many foods he still has to be tested for."

"We would be in the test room all day. It was very difficult for Marc. After two weeks we had both had enough."

Marc is Jenny's third child. Darren, 15, and Jodi, 13, always try to help their mother when Marc gets out of hand.

"These two are a great help," she said. "Marc is lucky he's the youngest. It was knowing my husband and I had done a good job bringing up Darren and Jodi that made it easier to cope with Marc. I don't have any feelings of guilt because I know Marc's behaviour is not my fault. Of course, it isn't his fault either."

Since Marc's treatment began at the end of April, everyone who knows him has noticed a difference. At school he is more attentive and

a lot quieter. Jenny said: "We're now able to put him into situations we would have completely avoided six months ago. We had a wedding in the family recently and before his treatment I would never have dared take him to the ceremony. But we took him along and he was fine."

"And his teachers are finding he is willing to work now, so the feedback is positive and makes me feel better. I know his improvement isn't just in my imagination."

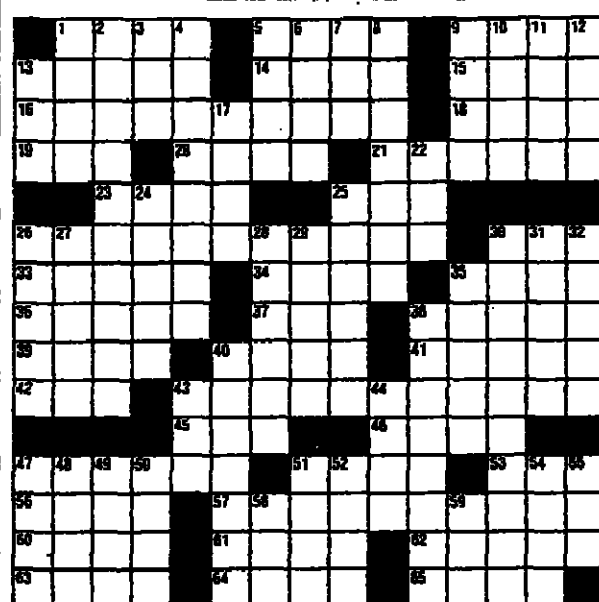
Marc's treatment is probably something he will have to live with for many years, although exactly how long is not known. His progress is monitored every six months and his dosages will be varied accordingly.

If he becomes tolerant to a substance, the hospital will simply stop treating him for it. But there is always the possibility he could become allergic to something else.

Marc's behaviour still leaves a lot to be desired. Jenny said: "It is often hard to draw the line between a naughty child, a hyperactive child and a defiant child. He is never naughty but is often defiant. It can be difficult to know when to discipline him and when there's no point. You can't reprimand a child for something that is beyond his control."

"I think I can now tell the differences in his behaviour. There are times when he can be noisy and defiant and not hyped-up at all. He's just being a little pest. But before the treatment, I just didn't know."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Word with other or rather
 - Otherwise
 - Notice
 - Query starter
 - Sly look
 - Flooring or roofing
 - Restaurant worker
 - Fitzgerald of jazz
 - Newly revised ref. work
 - Blind part
 - Turn up
 - Poet Teasdale
 - Watson
 - Bus. monogram
 - Start of a Dickens title
 - Afflictions
 - Ancient Red Sea kingdom
 - Riviera opus
 - cards
 - Sugar or syrup
 - River islets
 - British gun
 - Colorado resort
 - Draft org.
 - Flicks' colt
 - Neighbor of Ger.
 - Not quite closed
 - Special pleasures
 - Too
 - Presidential initials
 - Bass breather
 - Shark
 - "Winnie — Po"
 - Biblical garden
 - Khachaturian and namesakes
 - Charges
 - Fair
 - Persian of yore
 - DOWN
 - Quaker word
 - Early advantages
 - Ending with dull or wiz
 - Short film
 - Author-director
 - Kazan
 - Latvian
 - Comprehend
 - Some choros
 - Movement to watch
 - Stack
 - Spanish stew
 - Rend
 - Rock group, with "The"
 - Winged
 - Ballerina's step
 - Map source
 - "The Flying Dutchman" role
 - Fernando or Lorenzo
 - Needle cases
 - Break
 - Novelist
 - Glasgow
 - Northern opponent of the Civil War
 - Botanical tract
 - Evening, in Berlin
 - One of "The Three Sisters"
 - Popular kitchen herb
 - Theater commands
 - Make lace
 - Moderate
 - Farewell to the work week, for short
 - Irish
 - Fashion magazine
 - They're brown in October?
 - City N of Des Moines
 - K-P link
 - Ditto
 - Football scores: Abbr.
 - Fuss
 - Otto's realm: Abbr.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 6

♥ J 9 7 5

♦ 9 7 5 3 2

♣ J 4 2

WEST

♠ K J 10 5

♥ A K 8

♦ Q J 10 8

♣ K 8

EAST

♠ 4

♥ 6 4 3 2

♦ A 6 4

♣ Q 10 9 6 3

SOUTH

♠ A Q 9 8 7 3 2

♥ Q 10

♦ K

♣ A 7 5

The bidding:

South 1 ♠

West Pass

North 2 ♠

East Pass

South 2 ♠

West Dbl

North Pass

East Pass

Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

This is your lucky day. Four of the bridge players you despise most have ended up at the same table in a duplicate game, and you're going to get a chance to tell the world which of their bids and plays you dislike.

East rose with the ace of diamonds at trick one to tell the king, then continued the suit for declarer to ruff. He led the ten of hearts to West's king, and the shift was to the king of clubs. Declarer took his ace and continued with the queen of hearts to the ace. West returned his remaining club. East took two tricks in the suit as West got rid of his remaining heart, and then switched to a spade. In due course the de-

clarer took three spade tricks for an 800-point set.

If you criticized East's reopening bid of two clubs, you would have been right had the game been rubber bridge. At duplicate, however, you are unlikely to achieve even an average score if you allow the opponents to buy the hand at the one-level, so we like two clubs. Similarly, South's two spades is beyond reproach.

We hope you didn't think that West's opening lead should be the king of hearts. That could cost the defense a tempo. His choice of the queen of diamonds is correct. You should try to set up your secondary tricks before your winners are forced out. The first error comes at trick two—East should shift to his trump because he cannot be sure he will ever regain the lead to take his partner off a possible endplay.

The last and most grievous error was declarer's decision to win the ace of clubs at once. Had he held up one round, he would have saved at least one trick, perhaps two, depending on the defense.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

QIAF SOAK FLAB

FUR INVEST ROLE

FRONTROYAL ROSE

SINAI INFRONT OF

TIN DOESNT

PALL BETS EISEN

ANI ARE PIETRO

CONFESS AFFRONT

EDERLE EPIC REE

RESOD BROS NESS

NEGROS REF

RESTRAINT AARAU

OLEA WATERFRONT

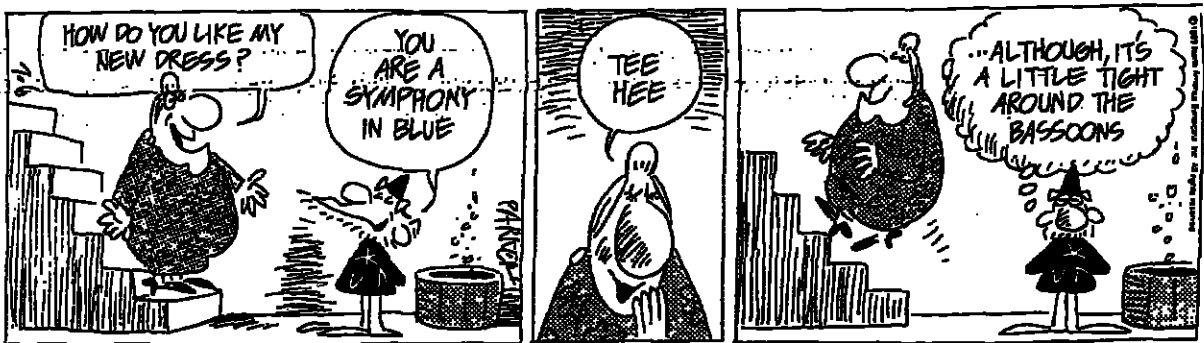
WONG PROMPT NNE

SLIDE NETS TIAS



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart















B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

 <p>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>You will have a lot to do — just get on with it. You should stick to your guns instead of allowing yourself to be intimidated. Your lucky numbers are 43 and 31. You will have something to be pleased about. Be polite.</p>	 <p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>There will be some obstacles but if you show determination you will be able to deal with them. You should beware of believing everything you hear. And you must not say anything you do not really mean. Be hopeful.</p>	 <p>Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>If you try to do two things at one time you will not succeed. Do not allow your emotions to carry you away, but beware of trying to inhibit them. Make sure you do not mistake something important for something that is not. Be generous.</p>	 <p>Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>You should not spurn good advice. You should try to be a little less self-conscious. Something you have been trying to learn will suddenly become easier. Be sensible.</p>
 <p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>Avoid doing anything that might not agree with your health. Do not spend too long chatting on the phone. Make sure you do not lose your inner peace of mind. Be responsive.</p>	 <p>Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)</p> <p>You are liable to find concentration to be a problem but you should do your best not to lose it. Work hard but do not try to find time for a hobby. And do not get into other people's way. Be sincere.</p>	 <p>Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will be rather disorganized and should spend a little time tidying up. Make sure you do not take so much exercise that you exhaust yourself. Take good care of your personal hygiene. Be matter of fact.</p>	 <p>Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>You are more liable to mislay things and should try to be just a little more orderly. And you will find something that you thought you had lost. Do not allow yourself to be succumb to negative thoughts. Be wary.</p>
 <p>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>Take enough rest, but do not be lazy. Something you have been trying to do will suddenly become easier. Make sure you are dressed correctly for the occasion and weather. Be magnanimous.</p>	 <p>Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)</p> <p>Something that you have been trying to do without much success will now become more possible. You should avoid jumping to conclusions, nor should you act on the spur of the moment. Do not try to impose your will and do be prepared to make some concessions. Be tolerant.</p>	 <p>Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>There will be time to make up for an error, but you must hurry. Make sure you do not miss the last post. Your intuition will be more acute but it will still not be as reliable as your reason. Be alert.</p>	 <p>Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)</p> <p>Something you had thought was finished will turn out not to be. You should not allow work to spoil your personal life. You will tend to be a little too suspicious. Be optimistic.</p>

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

KUWAIT City, near the G.P.O. One room with water and electricity for 2 bachelors. Rent KD 35 each. Tele. 244048, 2431371 9 am-1pm, 4-8 pm only.

(AT3-48511-2)
SALMIYA, near the Salmiya Education Centre. Accommodation for two Indian bachelors to share with another bachelor. Bus routes 15, 24, 30, 45, 19. Tele. 5749750, 10 am - 9.30 pm.

(AT3-48473-3)
SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. One room for Goan bachelors to share with a Goan family. Bus routes 109, 14, 15, 30. Tele. 5734859 after 1 pm.

(AT3-48463-3)
KUWAIT City, Sharq behind the Firdous Cinema, Villa No. 142, near the saloon "Goraya". Room for a family or working girls. Tele. 2404285.

(AT3-48507-3)

SHARQ, behind the City Restaurant, big room in a flat with tele. facilities. Dawoudi Bohra family or two bachelors. Tele. 2402974. (Res)

(AT1-48505-3)

FARWANIYA, behind the Kuwait Airways. One room in a flat with tele. facilities. Preferably for Indian bachelors. Tele. Fawani, Office. 4842988 ext. 4147, Res. 4716167.

(AT4-48497-3)

SHARQ, Accommodation in a flat with meals for a working lady to share with another lady. Tele. 2445787, 2417758.

(AT3-48479-3)

WANTED European, American Australian bachelor to share a flat in Salmiya. Good facilities reasonable rent. Tele. 2405267, 5732956.

(AT5-48509-3)

MANGAF, room in a CAC flat for a single bachelor. Tele. 3716894, after 3pm.

(AT5-48500-2)

For Rent

SULABIKHAT, deluxe half villa in a good location, fully furnished, carpeted with TV, video, stereo, washing machine, dryer, refrigerator, tele, freezer and cooker. Tele. 4872261.

(AT4-48486-3)

JABRIYA, 2 close new villas on 3 streets with car parking, each villa consisting of 3 flats. Each flat with 3 bedrooms and a large basement. Suitable for an embassy. Tele. John, 4814813, 4816915, 4817723.

(AT3-48447-3)

FARWANIYA, next to the Holiday Inn. Beautifully decorated flat, 3 bedrooms, central AC with swimming pool and tennis court. Reasonable rent. Tele. 9027538.

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MISHRIF, villa, reasonable rent. Tele. Abdalla, 5641239.

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JABRIYA, lovely villa ground floor, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, magnificent sitting room, dining room, kitchen with private entrance. Rent KD380 ono. No agent. Tele. 5332484.

(AT3-48475-3)

FOUND

ENGLISH terrier puppy gold brown colour, approx. 1 yr old with friendly temperament, found in Al Andalus area. Owner or good family wishing to claim. Tele. 4876964 after 5.30 pm.

(AT5-48503-2)

FOR SALE

Cars

TOYOTA Crown royal saloon 1984, white, fully automatic, 66,000 kms. in very good condition. KD1850 cash. Tele. 5730707 after 3 pm.

(AT3-48457-3)

BMW 735 i 1985, automatic, full options, white, in excellent condition. KD4,000 cash. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 2406593 off. 5638794, res.

(AT3-48460-6)

MASERATI 425 Biturbo (twin turbo 1985, 4 doors, theft alarm device, Italian plate, AC, transmission manual, dark brown metallic in excellent condition. Best offer in cash. Tele. Nabil or Ziad, 2623037 or 5747153, 8 - 10 am, and afternoon.

(AT3-48448-3)

TOYOTA Crown, Super Saloon 1983, red, automatic, 64,000 kms. 4 doors, AC, one owner, insured upto June 1990, in good condition. Tele. 5653952.

(AT5-48474-3)

Restaurant needs

Cooks Stock keeper
Helpers Accountant
Driver Waiters

Sri-Lankan & Filipino only. Must have qualifications, experience and transferable residence (No. 18)

Send full details & CV to P.O. Box 27407, 13135 Safat or call 2402540 from 11 am to 3 pm.

(AT3-48447-3)

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- Mohamad Manzoor Hussain
- Mohamed Bahaaddin
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- Editha Santos
- Genovea Pascua
- Araceli Aquino
- Gagithy Kishinn
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- Kothrin Rebalo
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Should call on the company management within 15 days from the date of this advertisement to settle their situations and residences, otherwise the company will take the necessary legal actions against them.

MARKET PLACE

MAIDAN Hawalli, flat, fully furnished with 2 bedrooms, dining and sitting rooms, 3 AC's and tele. Rent KD160. Tele. Soheil, 5336370 after 6 pm.

(AT3-48449-3)

VILLA contents, Ikea pine bed room, white leather sofa set, marble tables, shelves, blinds, freezer. Tele. 5658147.

(AT5-48493-3)

DIFFERENT sizes of old Kuwaiti chests for sale. Tele. Mohd Al Quallaf, 2550709 (Res) 11am-6pm.

(AT5-48510-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant, Super Saloon 1985, white, AC, fully automatic, 1987 gearbox in good condition. KD600 down payment, KD900 by instalments. Tele. Mr Srinivasan 2439964, 8 am - 7 pm.

(AT4-48494-3)

TOYOTA Corolla 1980 automatic, AC, radio cassette, running condition, KD380 ONO. Tele. 4846643.

(AT3-48458-2)

VIDEO music lesson's tapes, piano, keyboard, guitar, drums with famous stars, 10 lessons in each tape for beginners and advanced. Only a few left. Tele. Josef, 4879813.

(AT3-48467-3)

HOUSE contents, including large fridge and freezer, chairs, coffee tables, plants etc. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. Mr Burton 5320168 anytime.

(AT5-48506-2)

2 Fridges, 2 stoves, showcase, cupboards, dressing table, side boards, double coats bunkbed and other small items. Tele. 2648899.

(AT2-48453-3)

ELECTRIC guitar with rosewood neck, tremolo, stratocaster style and amplifier with built-in reverb and distortion, Boss guitar effects with case. Tele. Josef, 4879817.

(AT3-48466-3)

LEONARD light green 2 doors, fridge, very cheap. Tele. 5616387.

(AT5-48501-2)

AIR ticket from Kuwait to Rome (Italy) return. Must sell. Bargain price. Tele. M. Ilias, 4736260, 4 - 8 pm.

(AT4-48481-3)

KODAK Carousel slide projector 35mm size, 80 shot, KD30 ono. Sanyo music centre KD40 ono. Tele. 5717294.

(AT4-48487-2)

Vacant

MAID required, Filipino for a Kuwaiti family to take care of children to live-in, must have transferable visa. Tele. 2434194 from 8am-1pm and 5-8 pm.

(AT5-48512-3)

MUSLIM maid required immediately for a British lady with one child to live-in, must speak English and have a transferable visa. Tele. 2530380 after 2 pm.

(AT5-48498-3)

SERVICES

Baby Sitting

AVAILABLE with a qualified Indian lady in Jabriya, opp. New Indian School, in morning and evenings. Tele. Miss Jessy, 5320029, 1.30 - 4.30 pm.

(AT3-48470-3)

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MATHEMATICS for secondary and higher secondary classes given by an experienced post-graduate teacher. Tele. 4316895.

(AT4-48482-3)

Transport

REQUIRED for a person from Jassab Al Shiyokh behind the communication building to Sabhan. Working hours 7.30 am - 4 pm. Tele. Mr Raja, 5735213, 4731407.

(AT4-48488-3)

AVAILABLE from Abu Halifa to Kuwait City 7.30 am - 2 pm and after 4 pm from anywhere to any destination. Tele. 2423060 ext 232 off. 8 am - 2 pm; 3717076, res.

(AT4-TM-3)

NAME CHANGE

I, Muhaideen Daga holder of Indian passport No. Y-633151 hereby change my name to Mohideen Thaha.

(AT4-48485-3)

WANTED

2 or 3-bedroom flat preferably in Salwa area for a British couple. Rent up to KD250. Tele. Stephen 5722851/2 ext 405, any time.

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FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool.

Qatar Real Estate
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REQUIRED
For a Kuwaiti-based English Co. An English female familiar with office duties. Full training will be provided. Please call: 2409686/4.

FOR RENT
Villa in Jabriya in good location.

Please contact tel. 2407640-1, 5512251, 5519800 Mr. Mahmood

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For two weeks only!
Choice of Cassettes — English, Hindi, Tamil, Arabic, Wrestling.
KD 1.250 only
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Shop No. 27,
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A fully furnished household and appliances for sale. For more details pls call 2409686/4

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Forwaniya Branch
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For all your shifting with transportation, painting, wall papering, carpet & villa cleaning. We are at your service, with skilled workers.
Contact Mr. Stanley tel. 4746877/4731004. Timings: 8.00 am - 1.00 pm and 4.00 - 8.00 pm. Al Mowatin Trdg.

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REQUIRED

- 1- Sales representative (for house utensils)
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Call 2446622 from 9 to 11.30 am and 4.30 to 6.30 pm.

Surprise

50 films, KD5 for 1 month from today (23rd July) Indian, Arabic, English, and American new songs and also cartoon films for children.

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Bajat Street Tel: 5738577

Al Ibrahim Taxi

Tel. 2400013, 2400014, 2400015

Forwaniya Branch
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CARGO EXPRESS

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Hall of Fame game cancelled

COOPERSTOWN, New York, July 25. (AP) The Hall of Fame weekend, already marred by the shadow of allegations against Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose, ended on an anti-climax when the traditional game was cancelled because the Reds had trouble getting a flight to Cooperstown.

Yesterday, the Reds were to have played the Boston Red Sox in the annual Hall of Fame game. The idea was to have Rose and newly inducted Hall of Famer Johnny Bench in Cooperstown for a reunion of the most

popular Cincinnati players of all time.

The game was to cap a weekend in which bench, a Cincinnati star for 17 seasons, and Carl Yastrzemski, a member of the Boston Red Sox for 23 years, were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

But Rose, facing allegations that he bet on Reds games, had decided even before yesterday's flight plan troubles that he should stay away.

Rose has sued baseball, charging commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti had prejudged

Rose's guilt — which could mean being his banned for life from the game.

The case is currently tied up in the Ohio courts and an injunction has temporarily blocked Giamatti from holding his hearing and deciding if Rose in fact bet on baseball games.

Rose decided his presence in Cooperstown would cause a commotion and he might even run into Giamatti.

"I had no input in Mr Rose not coming today," Giamatti said.

Indians scalp Yankees

Blue Jays outlast Rangers

NEW YORK, July 25, (AP) Joey Ballew sealed the New York Yankees' doom last night when he hit a Grand Slam home run to break a 7th inning tie and lead the Cleveland Indians to a 7-3 victory.

"The game is on the line. There's times I won't come through, but this time I did," he said.

Ballew's home run off Eric Plunk propelled Cleveland to a fifth win in six games, moving from 10 games back to 5 1-2 games behind first-place Baltimore in the American League East.

The Yankees lost their seventh straight.

Brewers 10, Tigers 0
Chris Bosio, 11-6, pitched a three-hitter over seven innings as Detroit lost its sixth straight and 16th in 18 games.

Jack Morris, 2-8, lost in his first appearance since May 22. Morris, who was out with chips in his right elbow, gave up nine hits and seven runs in 5 1-3 innings.

Blue Jays 6, Rangers 3
Tony Fernandez, Kelly Gruber, Fred McGriff and Manny Lee homered. The Rangers' 19-year-old Wilson Alvarez didn't get an out in his Major League debut, allowing all five batters he faced to reach.

Todd Stottlemyre, 3-4, all-

owed four hits and three runs in seven innings and Tom Henke finished with two-hit relief for his eighth save.

White Sox 5, Mariners 4
Carlton Fisk singled with the bases loaded and two outs in the ninth inning as Chicago won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Mike Jackson, 3-4, walked Dave Gallagher to lead off the ninth. Gallagher took second when Steve Lyons sacrificed against Keith Comstock and went to third on Comstock's throwing error to first. Harold Baines was intentionally walked and Mike Schooler got two outs before Fisk singled on an 0-2 pitch.

Angels 5, Athletics 4
Chili Davis homered off Gene Nelson, 2-5, to snap a seventh-inning tie and Jack Howell homered in the eighth as California won its sixth straight and stopped Oakland's five-game winning streak.

California won at Oakland for only the second time in 11 games and took a one-game lead over Athletics in the American League West.

Willie Fraser, 3-5, allowed two hits and one run in 2-3 innings and Bryan Harvey got four outs for his 13th save.

Expos 4, Phillies 3

Tim Lincecum belted the first

curveball pitch from Philadel-

phia Phillies reliever Greg Harris

last night to lead the Montreal Expos to a 4-3 win in the 12th inning.

Two errors by Philadelphia

preceded the game-winning hit.

Andres Galarraga hit a one-out single off Harris, 1-2, and stretched it to second base when Tom Herr dropped the throw from centre fielder Len Dykstra.

Tim Lincecum was walked intentionally and Hubie Brooks reached on an error by Harris before Wallach singled to left to extend both Montreal's winning streak and Philadelphia's losing streak to four games.

Giants 2, Braves 0

A two-run homer by Kevin Mitchell spoiled a powerful performance by John Smoltz as the Atlanta Braves 2-0 to give Rick Reuschel his 13th victory.

Mitchell's homer in the fourth inning, his Major League-leading 33rd, was one of just three hits allowed by Smoltz, 11-7, who struck out a career high 10 batters. The loss was Atlanta's fifth in a row.

Results		American League	
Cleveland	7	New York	3
Milwaukee	10	Detroit	0
Chicago	5	Seattle	3
Toronto	6	Texas	3
California	5	Oakland	4
National League			
Pittsburgh	7	Los Angeles	4
Montreal	4	Philadelphia	3
San Francisco	2	Atlanta	0
Chicago	3	St Louis	2



Manny Lee (top) homered for Blue Jays.

Strange and Beck join Cup squad

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla., July 25, (Reuters) US Open golf champion Curtis Strange and Chip Beck have joined British Open victor Mark Calcavecchia in qualifying for the US Ryder Cup team to play Europe, the PGA of America announced yesterday.

"The additions of Curtis and Chip to this year's team will greatly enhance our chances of returning the Ryder Cup back to American soil," US captain Raymond Floyd said in a statement.

Strange, winner of the US open for the past two years, was the 1988 Player of the Year and had appeared in the last three Ryder Cups. Beck, who won two events last year and has been playing consistently well, will be making his debut.

Calcavecchia, who won the British Open crown on Sunday in a playoff with Australians Greg Norman and Wayne Grady, had already clinched a place on the Ryder Cup team.

The United States leads the biennial series 21-5 with one tie but lost to Europe in the last two contests. The next meeting takes place September 22-24 at the Belfry in central England.

Only three events remain for US players to gain points for the 12-man Ryder Cup team. The last is the August 10-13 PGA Championship whose winner automatically qualifies.

Williams and Killebrew lead former stars

LONDON, July 25, (AP) Baseball Hall of Famers Billy Williams and Harmon Killebrew will lead a team of former baseball All-Stars to England this fall to promote the American pastime in a land where cricket is king.

This will put baseball on the map in Britain, "promoter Richard Jordan said yesterday. A team of at least 18 former All-Stars, to be managed by former Orioles skipper Earl Weaver, will play the British Olympic team on Sept 23 at the 20,000-seat Old Trafford cricket grounds in Manchester.

Michael Fitchko, director of the Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association, speaking by telephone from Pittsburgh, said Hall of Famer Bob Feller also is expected to join the squad as an honorary coach.

The former All-Stars will participate in a celebrity golf tournament the day before the game and some will circulate through the crowd signing autographs during the contest, Jordan said.

Wangila hurt by junk food

LAS VEGAS, July 25, (AP) Robert Wangila, an Olympic gold medalist for his native Kenya, has a simple explanation for his early problems as a professional fighter.

"He didn't like American food."

"In America, things are different, everything is different," Wangila said. "In Africa you just eat foods from the garden that are very fresh. That's why we're very strong. Here you get food that has stayed for three months."

Wangila, the first black African to win an Olympic boxing gold medal, lived on a diet of junk food after arriving in the United States last fall to begin his pro career.

Adjusting to the food and the new culture took its toll, and Wangila looked unimpressive in his first few pro fights.

"It was very hard for me to get settled here because it was a different culture," the 22-year-old said. "I didn't cook so I had to eat in restaurants, and I had many nutritional problems."

Now, however, Wangila is coming off his most impressive performance as a pro, a first round knockout earlier this month, and says he has made the adjustment to both life in America and professional boxing. He lives in an apartment in this desert gaming capital with his girlfriend and no longer feels like an outsider.

"Now I'm getting used to living here, and I like it," he said.

"At first I didn't like it at all."

Wangila's road to the United States began in Seoul, where he devastated the welterweight division, knocking out all but one opponent to take an Olympic gold medal.

His performance didn't go unnoticed by Akbar Muhammad, a representative of promoter Bob Arum, who was in Seoul trying to line up pro deals with the top American fighters.

"When he splattered the Frenchman for the gold, I really started paying attention," recalled Muhammad. "I left my seat at that point and made my way to the back of the arena and gave him my card."

Muhammad said he tried to convince Wangila to fly directly to America, but the fighter instead went back to Kenya, where his coaches attempted to convince him not to turn pro.

Muhammad followed, however, and spent three weeks in Kenya, first trying to locate Wangila, then trying to persuade him that he should become a pro in America. As it turned out, money finally did the talking.

"They gave me a lot of money, and I was able to buy my mother a house," Wangila said.

Former basketball star fulfills vow

Abdul-Jabbar goes out \$3m richer

LOS ANGELES, July 25, (AP) One of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's greatest triumphs as his professional basketball career drew to a close had nothing to do with a skyhook or winning a game at the free throw line.

It was his rebound on the bottom line.

Although he was a very diligent player, Abdul-Jabbar's lack of attention to business off the court apparently led to such busted deals as investments in cattle feed.

When he sued Thomas Collins in 1986, claiming that the agent had squandered most of Abdul-

Jabbar's money, the headlines summoned memories of other great athletes, such as former heavyweight champion Joe Louis, who wound up broke.

The Los Angeles Lakers' center, the National Basketball Association's all-time leading scorer and six-time Most Valuable Player, was determined not to go out that way. And he didn't.

"I just had to deal with it like I was going to lose everything and start from scratch," said Abdul-Jabbar, 42, who retired this year after a record 20 seasons in the NBA. "Everything had to be totally restructured."

After breaking with Collins, Abdul-Jabbar, with a new attorney and accounting firm, developed a strategy for a financial comeback.

Last season, he signed a final, two-year contract with the Lakers worth \$3 million, the highest annual salary ever in a team sport.

There were commercials, national advertising campaigns, a contract with a shoe company, work in television production and other ventures.

"It's the best scenario for an exit," Abdul-Jabbar said. "I'm thankful that everything worked out. Things just keep getting better."

"I think Kareem feels he's overcome another supreme challenge, very different from the court," said Leonard Armato, Abdul-Jabbar's attorney.

Neither he nor Abdul-Jabbar would divulge financial figures, but Armato said his client was in very sound financial health.

Abdul-Jabbar's \$55 million suit against Collins, who later countersued, alleged the agent had lost more than \$9 million of the centre's money in bad invest-

ments. Abdul-Jabbar claimed he couldn't pay his debts and often had to borrow money from Collins to meet living expenses.

He also alleged that, without his knowledge, Collins borrowed money in Abdul-Jabbar's name to invest in ventures that didn't work out.

Abdul-Jabbar's suit alleged that among other investments that went sour was a loss of 297,926 dollars in cattle feed.

The suit and Collins' counter-suit remain in litigation. Collins has refused comment.

Abdul-Jabbar, who said he didn't pay attention to his finances and left all the decisions to his agent, said he's wiser now.

"The thing that I would underline for anyone making a lot of money and without enough time to watch it closely, is to get the best help possible, use an established, conservative accounting firm," he said. And sign all your own checks.

"You might not get sophisticated in investments and law, but you'll know enough about what's happening with your money."

Armato said he formed a marketing firm two years ago for Abdul-Jabbar. "Not only to generate revenue, but to enhance his image."

The public — and media — perception was that Abdul-Jabbar was often brooding and aloof. Recently, however, he has been more approachable, both by the media and businesses.

"Here was a man who not only had achieved excellence as an athlete, but had an incredible intellect as well," Armato said. "We wanted to make sure his image was impeccable and we wanted to put him in closer touch with the public, make him more human and approachable."



World Cup trophy

Malilda Cuomo (left), wife of New York Governor Mario Cuomo, Anna Petrignani (centre), wife of the Italian ambassador to the United Nations, and actress Cicely Tyson hold the trophy which will be presented to the winner of the World Cup in Italy in 1990. The trophy, topped by a platinum ball, was made by an Italian jewellery manufacturer and shown in the United States for the first time at a jewellers' convention in New York on Monday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Duran and Leonard to fight again

NEW YORK, July 25, (AP) A third fight between Roberto Duran and Sugar Ray Leonard, who last met nine years ago, will be announced formally at a news conference tomorrow.

The date and site were not known.

The match reportedly will be held Nov 2 if it is in Las Vegas, and Nov. 30 if it is in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Speculation was that Leonard's next fight would be against Thomas Hearns, who fought a 12-round draw with Leonard in their long-awaited rematch June 12 at Las Vegas. In their first fight, Leonard's stopped Hearns in the 14th round for the undisputed welterweight title Sep 16, 1981, at Las Vegas.

Duran, 38, and Leonard, 33, twice met for the World Boxing Council welterweight title in 1980. Duran won the title from Leonard on a 15-round unanimous decision June 20 at Montreal. Then Leonard regained the title in the "no mas" fight Nov 25 when Duran quit in the eighth round at New Orleans.

Leonard will go into the third fight as the WBC super middleweight champion, the fifth title he has held. Duran became a four-time champion when he won the WBC middleweight title on a 12-round split decision over Iran Barkley Feb 24 at Atlantic City.

Brazil lose Tita for Cup qualifier

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, July 25, (AP) Brazilian soccer team midfielder Tita suffered a serious head injury during an exhibition game with Japan on Sunday, and wasn't expected to make next week's opening World Cup qualifying match with Venezuela.

At 67 minutes, Tita was hit in the neck by Japanese defenseman Harata and collapsed unconscious on the field. He was hospitalized with a concussion and is out of Brazil's game with Venezuela July 31 in Caracas.

Starting attacker Romario also left the game with a sprained ankle, and team doctors said the player would undergo tests this week to see if he can face Venezuela.

The exhibition match was Brazil's first outing since it defeated Uruguay 1-0 July 16 in the final of the America Cup Tournament, the South American championship.

The Japanese squad showed a tight defense but little ability on offense, and never seriously threatened the Brazilian goal. Brazil won the match 1-0 on a goal at 74 minutes by midfielder Bismarck, who replaced Tita.

Some 2,200 fans turned out at Sao Januario stadium of Rio's Vasco da Gama Club to watch the new national team, which for the first time featured ace centre-forward Careca on the starting squad.

Careca, of Italy's Napoli team, is widely considered one of the best strikers in the world, but did not play in the America Cup because of a leg injury.

Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni fielded his "dream attack" of Bebeto, Careca and Romario. The trio is expected to start in Brazil's World Cup qualifying games against Venezuela and Chile.

However, the attack didn't play up to expectations. With Careca visibly out of shape and Romario loafing for much of the game, Brazil was easily contained by the Japanese defense.

"The attack has to improve so as not to overwork the midfield," Lazaroni said after the match. "The three men in front played too far up, they didn't come back to mark and retake the ball. It was a practice, and we'll improve our variations for the game against Venezuela."

FIFA fine Johnston and Rehn

ZURICH, July 25, (Reuters) Scottish international Maurice Johnston and Sweden's Stefan Rehn have been fined by FIFA for "unsportsmanlike behaviour," after pulling out of transfer deals and signing for other clubs.

Johnston now with Glasgow Rangers, was fined \$5,000 and Rehn, who has joined England's Everton, \$2,500 after their transfers were examined by FIFA's players' status committee.

In imposing the fines, the committee considered the behaviour of both players as unsportsmanlike and to be "deplored," FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni said yesterday.

Rangers' rivals Glasgow Celtic had asked FIFA, the International Football Federation, to investigate the case of Johnston after the player refused to join them from French club Nantes despite signing a contract.

Johnston backed out of the move for personal reasons but FIFA ruled his contract with Celtic was valid. But when Celtic said they were no longer interested in him, Johnston moved to Rangers in a controversial \$2.5 million deal which will make him the first Catholic to play for the Scottish champions.

Former Swiss champions Neuchatel Xamax complained to FIFA that Rehn, previously of Swedish side Djurgardens, had signed to join them but then changed his mind in favour of Everton.

Tognoni said that Neuchatel's protest could not be upheld as Rehn had only signed a letter of intent to join them.

"He subsequently preferred Everton and made a valid contract with them," Tognoni said, adding that Johnston's fine was heavier because he had failed to honour a signed contract.

Injury-prone McGrath joins Villa

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters) Graham Taylor, manager of English First Division Aston Villa, took an expensive gamble yesterday when he signed injury-prone Irish soccer international Paul McGrath from Manchester United.

Taylor paid £400,000 (\$650,000) for the 29-year-old defender, who has long suffered with knee problems.

But Taylor, who last week signed Danish international Kent Nielsen from Brondby for £500,000 (\$810,000), said: "All the medical reports say Paul is fit to play."

McGrath, who had been with United for eight years, said: "My knees are holding out all right and, as long as they continue to do so, then I'll continue to play football."

Waikato beat Pumas

Several players injured

HAMILTON, New Zealand, July 25, (Reuters) The Argentine Pumas faced the prospect of ending their nine-match rugby union tour of New Zealand with a less than 50 per cent success record when they were beaten 30-12 by leading provincial side Waikato today.

With only Saturday's second Test against the All Blacks remaining, the Pumas have posted just four wins in eight matches. Even ardent supporters do not expect them to fare better than they did in the first Test 10 days ago, which they lost 60-9.

To add to their woes, the Pumas suffered several injuries today which could place some key players in doubt for the last match.

Captain and centre Marcelo Loffreda and number eight Joaquin Uriarte went off injured while two leading forwards, Gustavo Milano and Marcos Baack, sustained knee and shoulder injuries respectively towards the end.

Waikato, one of the better New Zealand provincial sides this season, played below their potential but were still able to score four tries to two in the scrappy match.

Lively scrumhalf Kevin Putt scored two while in the forwards Waikato were far too strong for the Pumas both in set pieces and in the loose.

Outstanding in the Waikato pack were the two mobile locks Brent Anderson and Richard Jerram, but they also had a major asset in flyhalf Brett Craies who scored a try and added 14 points with his accurate kicking.

Despite the loss the Pumas were happy with many aspects of the game. Coach Rodolfo O'Reilly said the team had managed to attack more than in earlier games on tour and, apart from Auckland, Waikato had been undoubtedly the hardest provincial side they had met.

Teams: WAIKATO — Daryl Halligan, Paul Simonsson, Andrew Strawbridge, Warren Jennings, Rodney McIntosh, Brett Craies, Kevin Putt, John Mitchell, Duane Mackay, Brent Anderson, Richard Jerram, Tom Coventry, Richard Lee, Warren Garland, Graham Purvis.

ARGENTINA — Sebastian Salvat, Marcelo Righentini, Marcelo Loffreda (Alejandro Scolini), Diego Cuesta Silva, Fabian Turnes Rafael Madero, Daniel Baetti, Joaquin Uriarte (Gustavo Milano), Marcos Baack, Pablo Buaibe, Marcelo Valesani, Miguel Bertranou, Serafin Dengra, Ricardo Le Fort, Luis Molina.

Harmon was the pro at River Oaks Country Club in 1943. He moved to Detroit in 1944 and also was the head pro at Seminole, Florida, from 1945-47 as well as Winged Foot and Mamaroneck, New York. He also worked at Morningstar Golf Club in Palm Desert, California.



Abdul-Jabbar hits his hook shot.



The Lakers star finds himself on the ground after being fouled on.



Kareem watches his team in action from the bench last season. He was left out in a number of games.

SPORTS

Khayat — first Saudi to finish European rally

ZARAGOZA, Spain: In the most outstanding performance of his career to date, Saudi Arabia's Mamdouh Khayat, this week finished 46th out of 332 starters in the 1989 Baja-Aragon rally which was run through the rugged agricultural hinterland of this major Spanish city.

"I am absolutely delighted with the outcome here," said a jubilant Khayat, who became the first Saudi to finish in an inter-

national rally outside the Arab world. "We all worked very hard for this victory, from the mechanics of Ralliat Middle East, to my co-driver Julian Raymond. You do not get a result like this by luck. It is the preparation and organisation behind you that counts."

From the beginning of this non-stop FIA raid event, Khayat and Raymond

piloted their Marlboro-Mitsubishi Pajero through a hot Spanish summer's day with sheer concentration and determination. They started their marathon journey from Zaragoza at 5.45 am arriving back at the finish ramp at 7.43 pm in the evening.

Starting at 23rd position Khayat had moved as high as thirteenth position at the half way stage, but then the car developed gear-box trouble causing a loss of twenty

minutes, resulting in the final overall placing of 46.

In contrast luck was not to be on Qatari, Abbas Al Mosawi's side. Before the first optional service halt just 50 km into the rally the steering developed a hairline fracture on the top wishbone. Due to the difficulty of receiving service assistance on the rally route, Abbas and Northern Irish co-driver Bobby Willis lost an hour.

Botham fires Test warning

Haynes completes double century



Botham: look seven for 85

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): Ian Botham fired a warning at the Australian cricketers three days before the fourth Test with his best bowling performance in 11 years in the English County Championship yesterday.

Botham claimed the first seven wickets before off-spinner Graeme Hick mopped up the tail to dismiss Sussex for 301 in 94 overs — 19 runs behind Worcestershire's first innings total.

Botham, whose best championship bowling performance is seven for 61 for Somerset against Glamorgan at Cardiff in 1978, grabbed the first wickets in 49 balls that yielded only 10 runs.

Bowling unchanged throughout the afternoon session, the England all-rounder took full advantage of the sultry conditions to claim six for 53 from 29 overs at tea.

He was rested for 40 minutes after the interval but returned to grab his seventh wicket, Colin Wells was the victim having top scored with 81 in 120 balls includ-

ing 13 fours. Botham finished with seven for 85.

West Indian Desmond Haynes completed the first double century of his career when Middlesex batted for the first hour against Kent and added 53 to their overnight 405 for one.

Haynes took his score from 185 to 206 not out before Middlesex declared.

Compatriot Ricardo Elcock caused Kent further trouble by taking three first innings wickets without cost in 11 balls and finishing with figures of three for 19.

Elcock was unable to bowl after suffering back spasms in the lunch interval but England spinner John Emburey claimed three for 23 as Kent were dismissed for 164 and forced to follow on. Kent were 27 for one in their second innings at the close.

Robin Smith celebrated his England Test recall with an unbeaten 119 for Hampshire against Lancashire — his fourth century in 10 championship

innings. Smith's elder brother Chris batted for nearly three hours for 66 to lay three foundations for a blistering assault by Robin, which included 16 fours and two sixes.

Scores

At Portsmouth: Lancashire 475 for four declared in 110 overs and 24 for one Hampshire 336 for four declared in 104 overs (R. Smith 119 not out, C. Smith 66, K. James 47, M. Marshall 41 not out).

At Uxbridge: Middlesex 438 for one declared in 124 overs (D. Haynes 206 not out, M. Roseberry 48 not out), Kent 164 in 68.4 overs (R. Elcock three for 19) and 27 for one.

At Southend: Yorkshire 115 in 41.4 overs and 209 for eight (P. Robinson 47), Essex 248 in 82.4 overs (P. Jarvis six for 76).

At Dover: Worcestershire 320 in 122.3 overs (N. Radford 66 not out), Sussex 301 in 94 overs (C. Wells 81, P. Parker 66, I. Botham seven for 85).

At Derby: Glamorgan 191 in 72.1 overs and 101 for two (A. Butcher 43), Derbyshire 338 in 107.4 overs (J. Morris 134, P. Bowler 53, B. Roberts 40).

At Taunton: Somerset 449 in 134.2 overs (A. Jones 43 not out), Leicestershire 212 for eight after 82 overs (T. Boon 51, D. Gower 48).

At Northampton: Northamptonshire 322 in 108.3 overs and 30 for one, Nottinghamshire 289 in 95.5 overs (C. Broad 76, T. Robinson 68, B. French 51 not out).

SPORTS BRIEFS

18-month deal

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): Frenchman Jean Alesi, leader of the Formula 3000 international championship, has signed an 18-month deal to drive for the Tyrrell Formula One team, Tyrrell announced today.

Alesi has already driven two races for Tyrrell, replacing Italian Michele Alboreto, who had a contract dispute with the British team.

Cup qualifier

ZURICH, July 25, (Reuters): Israel, the Oceania group winner, will play away in the first leg of their World Cup soccer qualifying tie against the winner of South American Group Two comprising Colombia, Ecuador and Paraguay.

Olympic stadium

BARCELONA, Spain, July 25, (AP): Officials of the Association of National Olympic Committees toured Barcelona's newly rebuilt Olympic stadium today, ready for use three years to the day before the opening of the 1992 Summer Games.

Hockey star

MOSCOW, July 25, (AP): Burglars ransacked the apartment of Soviet hockey star Igor Larionov, newly on contract with the Vancouver Canucks, and stole various electronic appliances, a Moscow newspaper reported today.

Top ranking

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Nicklas Kulti of Sweden jumped from 13th place to the top of the boys' junior tennis rankings after 61 junior tournaments with his victory in the junior tournament at Wimbledon. Florencia Labat of Argentina maintained her top ranking among girls.

Inoki elected

TOKYO, July 25, (UPI): Antonio Inoki, peacock-jawed popular professional wrestler, was elected to the upper house of parliament in Sunday's election, making him the first pro wrestler turned politician. Inoki, 46, son of Japanese family emigrated to Brazil, campaigned under the banner of the Sports Peace Party, a small party formed by himself. He garnered 993,989 ballots to make his way into the Diet, Japan's parliament.

Tennis ace

STOCKHOLM, July 25, (Reuters): Sweden's former tennis ace Bjorn Borg said yesterday he had turned down an offer to bail out his ailing corporate fashion empire because he did not want to surrender financial control.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Westminster System-17 bridge tournament game held at the Regency Palace on Sunday:

N/S: 1. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah 2. Lalla Mor'ali & Adly Tiah 3. Fazel Hussain & Milken Ashkar E/W

1. Jaya Sapre & Dhruba Mukerjee 2. Barbara & John Wilson 3. Ravi Sapre & Santos Aurora

RESULTS of the Hubara Centre Bridge Club game held on Saturday:

N/S: 1. Bianca Mousall & Ahmed Tawil 2. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah 3. Ravi Sapre & Fazel Hussain E/W

1. Diab & Ibrahim 2. Beatrice Pereira & Aubrey D'Souza 3. Camilla Guirguis & George Masoud

Bustos upset at US Olympic Festival

Keefe helps West outplay North

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 25, (UPI): Adam Keefe of Stanford rebounded a missed free throw and scored with 43 seconds left yesterday to give the previously winless West team coached by California's Lou Campanelli an 86-84 victory over the North at the US Olympic Festival.

It was the first loss of the festival for the northern squad, coached by Michigan State's Jud Heathcote, but could not keep the North out of tomorrow night's gold medal game.

The North led by 16 in the first half and by 10 at halftime, but the West rallied on 19 points from Georgia Tech's Kenny Anderson. Oklahoma state teammates Byron Houston and Corey

Williams combined to score 11 of the North's last 12 points.

"It was very difficult, with the team already in the gold medal game and having played the night before, to come out today and play with emotion," Heathcote said. "We didn't get a top performance from any of our players and we couldn't stay with Kenny Anderson."

The winner of last night's scheduled game between the East, headed by Seton Hall's P.J. Carlesimo, and the South guided by recently fired Tennessee coach Don Devore, will face the North for the gold medal.

The West's comeback victory highlighted a light day of action at the Olympic Festival, although the finals in the Greco-Roman wrestling competition last night were to determine members of the American world championship team.

One of those winners was decided early yesterday when Darrell Gholar failed to make his weight in the 163-pound class. That gave the festival gold medal and the world championship team berth to David Butler of Vallejo, Calif., a member of the 1988 Olympic team.

Elsewhere around the festival yesterday, the first fast-pitch softball game of the week also saw the first no-hitter. Rick Planger of Benton Harbor, Mich., pitching for the North team, threw a no-hitter at the West even though

he gave up two runs in a 4-2 decision.

In contrast, in the exhibition sport of slow-pitch softball, the East team scored 13 runs in the seventh inning to win, 40-31. Rich Scherr of Sherrills Ford, N.C., had three home runs and drove in 10 runs, but his team still lost.

Tennis action also began yesterday with top-seeded Carlos Bustos of Coto de Caza, Calif., losing to Chet Crile of Mercer Island, Wash., 6-4, 6-4.

The women's gold medal basketball game was set with the North (coached by Marynell Meadows of Florida state) downing the West, 86-75.

Rosenthal to sue Udinese

BRUSSELS, July 25, (Reuters): Israeli international Ronny Rosenthal is to sue Italian side Udinese for alleged breach of contract after a transfer deal fell through, a spokesman for his Belgian club Standard Liege said today.

He said Udinese called off the transfer, saying the 24-year-old striker had a back problem, after Rosenthal had signed a contract with the club.

Singapore to host World Cup ties

ZURICH, July 25, (Reuters): Singapore was chosen today to host the World Cup soccer Asian second round qualifying ties from Oct 12-29.

The first two in the six-strong tournament will qualify for next year's finals in Italy.

The International Football Federation (FIFA) has decided to stage the second round ties in a single neutral venue because of travel problems.

North Korea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

are already through to the second round.

In Group Five China and Iran have still to settle the remaining berth.

The draw made at FIFA headquarters was as follows: UAE vs North Korea, China or Iran vs Saudi Arabia, South Korea vs Qatar, Qatar vs Saudi Arabia, South Korea vs North Korea, China or Iran vs UAE, China or Iran vs South Korea, North Korea vs Qatar, Saudi Arabia vs UAE, UAE vs Qatar, North Korea vs China or Iran, Saudi Arabia vs South Korea, UAE vs South Korea, Saudi Arabia vs North Korea, Qatar vs China or Iran.

Lemond takes part in exhibition race

Tour de France winner back on his bike again



Lemond (left) with Fignon during the Tour.

PARIS, July 25, (AP): Greg Lemond was back on his bicycle yesterday, after completing a miraculous comeback to win the Tour de France for a second time.

He was competing last night in what must have seemed to him just a sprint, a 60-kilometre (37-mile) exhibition race in the Normandy city of Lisieux, about 160 kilometres (100 miles) west of Paris.

Before the race, he found time to visit some students at a French-American school in the city, which he also visited in 1986, following his first victory in the Tour de France.

Greeted by about 60 cheering students and a banner that read "Welcome to Lisieux," Lemond shook hands, signed autographs and drank champagne.

"He was all smiles and tried to answer everybody's questions," said Karl-Heinrich Barsch, a French professor at the University of Central Florida who conducts the summer session in France for the American students. "I told him, 'we're very proud of you.' And the students echoed the sentiment."

Lemond told the group, "I'm glad to see Americans again" and was then lifted onto the shoulders of two students. A cham-

pagne cork was popped and he sprayed a celebratory mist over the crowd.

Before leaving, he said: "I'll be back next year and I'll be a win-

ner."

Lemond was still relishing his victory in the 23-day 3,250-kilometre (2,020-mile) race that ended Sunday with a come-from-

behind win in the final stage time trial. He won the overall title by just eight seconds, the smallest margin ever in the Tour de France — in beating Laurent Fignon.

Third place went to last year's winner, Pedro Delgado of Spain. Delgado's 1988 victory was clouded because one of his drug tests found traces of probenecid, a drug banned by Olympic athletes, but at that time legal for professional cyclists.

Tour officials announced yesterday that all 87 drug tests performed this year revealed no traces of prohibited drugs.

Lemond to overtake Fignon by 50 seconds before the final 24.5-kilometre (15-mile) stage from Versailles to Paris. He beat the Frenchman, also a two-time champion, by 58 seconds over the last leg.

He plans to compete in some exhibitions in the Netherlands later in the week then get back on the World Cup circuit.

At the end of August, Lemond returns to France to compete in the World Cycling Championships in Chambéry. He won the world road title once before, in 1983.

Meanwhile, it was learnt yesterday that Fignon sent Lemond a get-well note when the

American was recovering from a near-fatal hunting accident in 1987.

Members of Lemond's family remembered Fignon's thoughtfulness when they witnessed the Frenchman lose narrowly to Lemond.

They also remembered Lemond's narrow escape from the accident that nearly ended his career.

His sister, Karen Deller, recalled rushing with her husband from their home in Reno to Sacramento, where Lemond had been taken by helicopter after accidentally being shot by his brother-in-law while hunting.

"All I knew was that Greg had been shot and could have been dead," she said. "The whole time we drove we didn't know how he was, we just knew he was in the hospital."

After watching her brother's body swell from the inflammation caused by the shotgun pellets and seeing him lose weight rapidly, she said she began to doubt if trying a comeback was worth it.

"At the time when he had the accident, I felt he was really burned out on cycling," Deller said. "At the time we wondered how long he'd stay in."

Art Lemond said he was sure his grandson would come back.

'The drunken stick'

Wang Chin-Te of Taiwan's national martial arts team demonstrates a move called 'the drunken stick' in the southern city of Kaohsiung. Wang's team was practising yesterday for a world martial arts competition to be held in Las Vegas next month. (Reuters wirephoto)

Chamberlin triumphs, Srejber knocked out

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP): Paul Chamberlin and Todd Witsken, the Nos. 10 and 11 seeds, won easily while three other seeded players were upset in the first round of the Sovran Bank Classic.

Ninth-seeded Richard Matuszewski, No. 13 Milan Srejber and No. 15 John Frawley all lost in straight sets yesterday in heat that peaked at 104 degrees (40 Celsius) in the afternoon.

Jeff Tarango, the No. 16 seed, survived the afternoon of upsets into the second round of the \$297,500 tennis tournament with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Michael Robertson.

Chamberlin, coming off a quarterfinal finish at Wimbledon, served five aces and pulled out one winner behind his back on his way to a 6-4, 6-1 victory over Finland's Olli Rahnasto.

Witsken beat the overmatched Yahya Dombia of Senegal 6-0, 6-2. Matuszewski let several early breaks get away before losing to Italy's Italy's Gianluca Pozzi 6-3, 6-4. Srejber, of Czechoslovakia, lost control of his serve in a first-set tiebreaker, serving consecutive double-faults to hand that set to Richy Reneberg before falling after, 7-6, 6-0.

The tournament lost two of its top draws last week when John McEnroe withdrew because of the shoulder injury he suffered at Wimbledon and Jimmy Connors pulled out claiming exhaustion.

Other first-round play saw David Wheaton recover from a tiebreaker loss in the first set to oust Dan Cassidy, 6-7, 6-4, 6-0. John Ross came back from a 5-6 deficit in the second set to defeat qualifier Scott Warner 4-6, 7-6, and Gary Muller of South Africa and Phillip Johnson notched straight-set victories.

Srejber, who has played 43 spots to 84th in the rankings this year, was serving 5-4 at the end of an hour-long tiebreaker with Reneberg when he missed wide with four straight serves, handing Reneberg the set.

Ereng and Ngugi head strong Kenyan squad

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): Olympic champions Paul Ereng and John Ngugi head a powerful Kenyan men's track team to meet Britain in an athletics match on Friday.

Ereng races against compatriots Robert Kibet and Nixon Kiprotich plus Britain's European silver medalist Tom McKean over 800 metres.

Ngugi, the Olympics 5,000 gold medalist and four times world cross country champion, faces a stiff test against compatriot Yobes Ondieki in the 3,000 metres.

Britain's world record holder Steve Cram will run over the mile in his first race since the birth of

his daughter Josephine early last week.

Mike Boit, a former Commonwealth 800 metres champion who is now the Kenyan Athletics Association public relations officer, said the match would form an important part of Kenya's preparations for next year's Auckland Commonwealth Games.

"It's going to be a very tough competition," Boit told a news conference today. "But I don't think we are going to be too bad."

Britain's women will also be in action at Crystal Palace on Friday in a field events match against West Germany.

Whiteside valued £750,000

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): Manchester United and Everton today agreed terms for the transfer of Northern Ireland international Norman Whiteside to Goodison Park.

A fee of £750,000 (\$1.2 million) was agreed, subject to a medical examination. Whiteside missed most of last season through injury, and the fee could also be affected by the number of matches he plays for Everton this year.

Whiteside, who played in the

1982 World Cup finals in Spain just a few days after his 17th birthday, would be the second United star to leave Old Trafford, following on the heels of Republic of Ireland defender Paul McGrath's move to Aston Villa.

A transfer tribunal today valued Northern Ireland international midfielder Bernard McNally at £385,000 (\$623,700), and ordered Second Division West Bromwich Albion to come up with the cash for Shrewsbury.

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